

THE TIMES

Prime Minister supports Consett steel takeover

oves to sell Brush Steel's plant at Consett, which closed last week, got under way last night. A consortium of 11 northern companies announced that it would open talks with the corporation this morning. The group, which has Prime Minister's support, is thinking in terms of paying between £1.25m and £2.25m for the works.

Mr Rippon invited to join consortium

Peter Hill, Industrial Editor, says: "For a private-sector owner of the Consett steelworks, closed last week by the crude British Steel Corporation, were launched last night, move made by a consortium of 11 northern companies with the support of the Prime Minister and Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry. Geoffrey Rippon, the Cabinet Minister and invited Mr. for his speech been invited to join the consortium. Talks with Mr. McGregor, chairman of British Steel, and other senior executives of the corporation, this evening will determine whether the bid goes ahead. A consortium of 11 companies were formed last night by Mr. Sirs, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, who accused British Steel of being foolishly irresponsible in pressing with closing the plant. Representatives of the consortium refused last night to say any of the companies had, but the Department of Industry has been given a chance to comment on the consortium members' plan to form a company, the Industrial Groupings; as soon as possible. British Steel's attitude will be deciding factor in whether the consortium makes an offer for the works, it is likely that it will want to pay £1.25m to £2.25m.

Today's meeting at which hoped heads of agreement reached, Mr. McGregor was flanked by Mr. Robert, the corporation's executive, Dr. David, managing director of metal, Mr. Frank Holloway, in charge of finance and Mr. Derek Saul, director of the company's Teesside division, at a press conference last night. Mr. Saul said that he would prefer to see the works remain in public ownership, but he believed the consortium had a genuine desire to reduce unemployment in the Consett area and stem the flood of skilled imports.

Mr. Saul said that the group had asked for Mr. Rippon's support, but his involvement would not make him a member of the consortium. On British Steel's side there are other important considerations, not least the fact that a revitalized Consett would be operating in direct competition with its less-making mill operations at Scunthorpe on Humber-side.

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Illed Nicaraguan dictator ordered in Paraguay

On Sept. 17, General Joaquin Somosa, the former dictator, his driver, adviser were killed in his capital today by men.

Said that machine gun in two cars and a shell fired from the floor of a building near General Somosa's residence.

In Managua, the Nicaraguan Government hailed the assassination but denied any involvement.

General Somosa, who replaced General Somosa, said:

"We are Christians but in all sincerity we cannot conceal our joy at the death of an evil man."

Today he had declared a national day of celebration.

General Somosa fled immediately after his left-wing Sandinista forces.

Obituary, page 16

West concerned over Kim death sentence

Aged 46, died ionnaires' disease after a holiday in the resort of Benidorm, the son of Health and Safety said last night that his holidaymakers are the disease. All six ad stayed in the Rio Hotel. The name of the man and details of the victim were not disclosed. The United States has expressed deep concern. The two-and-a-half-week trial Mr. Kim has denied the charges against him.

Setbacks for Forest and Liverpool

Nottingham Forest, the defending champions, lost their first round tie 1-0 to CSKA Sofia in Bulgaria. The former champions, Liverpool, were also surprised by a Bundesliga team, Eintracht Frankfurt. They managed only a 1-1 draw. Aberdeen, the Scottish champions, beat Austria Vienna by 1-0. Four points were awarded in Ipswich Town's 5-1 win over Fleetwood Town.

Obituary, page 16

HOME NEWS

Auction of Leonardo manuscript follows failure of owners to agree price for sale to nation

By Martin Huckerby
The Codex Leicester, the illustrated manuscript by Leonardo da Vinci, is to be auctioned on December 12 because the owners were unable to agree a price for a private sale to the Government.

It is being sold by the trustees of the Holkham estate to meet tax liabilities caused by the death of the fifth Earl of Leicester in 1976. It is described by Christie's, the auctioneers, as the only manuscript notebook by Leonardo remaining in private hands, and estimates of its possible value range from £3m to £10m.

Lord Coke, the son of the sixth Earl of Leicester, said yesterday that the stumbling block in the negotiations had been the difficulty in putting a price on such a rarity, "which is why we are going to auction".

He thought it was right to sell the Leonardo manuscript rather than other treasures from Holkham Hall. Norfolk Visitors would far rather see a Rubens or a Van Dyck than the manuscript, which was "very difficult to display".

He had agonized far more about the decision to do a deal with the Government over the sale of seven other illuminated manuscripts from Holkham, because they were much more attractive objects than the Codex Leicester.

The nation would have to make a similar decision about whether to purchase the manu-

script; it was a very valuable object but was it really the most important thing to keep in Britain?

Mr Norman St John-Stevens, the Minister for the Arts, was yesterday in no doubt of the work's importance. He said he was determined to go all in his power to keep it in this country. His powers were limited, but he would use all his influence to that end.

He expressed concern that the trustees had not approached the Office of Arts and Libraries before sending the manuscript for auction, and said he had requested a meeting with the trustees and Lord Coke.

Apparently the trustees discussed selling the Codex with the Government about two years ago. Since it was a private tax matter, Treasury and Inland Revenue officials would not comment yesterday, but it is understood the negotiations took place before the election of the Conservative Government and the establishment of the Office of Arts and Libraries.

Nevertheless there is unshakable that the trustees did not renew contact with the Government before proceeding with the auction.

Mr St John-Stevens said: "I would very much prefer to see this being dealt with by means of a private treaty sale, but if the manuscript was sold to a foreign buyer, he could defer export in order to allow British institutions the chance to raise funds."

Today's Cabinet meeting unlikely to allow a cut in lending rate

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Today's first full meeting of the Cabinet since the money supply figures went awry and snatched Mrs Margaret Thatcher's return from holiday poses ministers with a classic dilemma.

They all would dearly like to lower Minimum Lending Rate at once, but know that now they cannot. At least, those who with Mrs Thatcher, run the economic policy know it, and are determined not to be stampeded into a political gesture by what they will see as the TUC, the CBI, commercial and TUC pressure.

That was the surbitarian word yesterday before the meeting, which has been surrounded by speculation. Minimum Lending Rate (MLR), it was said, was not likely to be lowered until after the Conservative Party conference, which ends in Brighton on October 10. Then a drop of a couple of points would be probable.

The delay is also political. The so-called "wets" in the Cabinet are expected to find

much of that irksome; some would like to lower MLR and claim that as a success. But it is not expected that they will make much of a case today.

Yesterday morning, a group of ministers met to consider public spending and the aeronautized industries. It is understood that the difficulties of British Rail and British Ship-builders, as well as those of defence enterprises, were discussed.

And that, it is said firmly, is not the mood of the economic policy of ministers. They are aligned with Mr Gordon Richardson, of the Bank of England, for his desire to keep a hold on the elusive M3, but they are not desperate.

Embarrassment at having relied too much on categorical definitions of money supply is, it is said, not going to be allowed to stand in the way of reducing inflation.

The so-called "wets" in the Cabinet are expected to find

Machine-room dispute halts 'Express' and 'Star'

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The Daily Express and the Daily Star were not published in London today, as yesterday, because of a dispute involving machine room assistants about overtime working.

Although the dispute came 24 hours after Express Newspapers gave a warning that it intended to cease London printing of the Star from the end of this month, it was apparently not connected with the announcement.

It was not directly related to the dispute involving compositing room members of the National Graphical Association which halted London publication of the Daily Express three times last week and the Daily Star twice.

Past and future of London docklands go on show

By Our Planning Reporter

of 1889, 1911 and 1926 and, of course, the Blitz.

A notice published by the London and India Docks joint committee in 1892 established a wage of 24 shillings per six days of eight working hours between 6 am and 6 pm, plus annual holidays of three days. Casuals, or "extra labourers" as they were then known, were entitled to sixpence an hour.

The exhibition at Congress House, Great Russell Street, central London, is open until October 3.

Request in will for home to be demolished

Miss Marjorie Elvira Joan Lobb, who died in July, ordered in her will, published yesterday, that her home in Higher Town, Truro, Cornwall, be "levelled to the ground" and all furniture, personal belongings, plants and shrubs be destroyed "for sentimental reasons".

She left an estate worth £139,315 gross, £135,798 net. Other wills, page 16.

Damages cash stolen

My Thomas James, a retired roadman from Plymouth, awarded £4,500 earlier this year as compensation for loss of sex drive, has had several hundred pounds of the money stolen from under the floor of his home.

Hospital asbestos danger widespread, society claims

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

"Going into hospital for an operation could lead to the patient suffering cancer in 15 to 20 years, representatives of the British Society for Social Responsibility in Science said yesterday.

Mr Alan Dalton, a lecturer in health and safety said asbestos hazards were present in very acute form in large numbers of hospitals. Where the dangers were being tackled, area health authorities and hospital management were often taking inadequate measures in an attempt to keep costs down, he alleged.

Mr Leslie Dixon, the president of the NGA, is expected to meet Express Newspapers management tomorrow to discuss the future of the Daily Star. Mr Dixon, 39, of whose union's members could be affected by an ending of London printing, said that he hoped that the decision could be reversed.

Mr Kenneth Ashton, general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, has asked for a meeting of all members of the TUC Print Industries Committee.

In the broadcast sponsored by the General Municipal Workers Union, it is claimed that after union safety representatives at St George's Hospital, Tooting, have called on contractors to implement more adequate safety precautions, the company was replaced by another which reverted to unsafe procedures.

It also took a safety representative from Lodge Moor Hos-

British Rail postpones announcing fare rises

By Michael Bailey
Transport Correspondent

British Rail yesterday postponed its announcement of a November fares increase, expected to be between 15 and 20 per cent, amid speculation that the Government may be prepared to take a marginally more sympathetic view of the railways' desperate financial plight.

The reason given for the postponement was that, with four million fares to change, British Rail had not completed formal consultation with line-management in the regions on how the rise would be implemented in detail.

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The eventual benefits to the trustees from an auction sale may not be all that great, because the proceeds would probably be taxed at 75 per cent.

However, the system of government accounting will make it very difficult for Mr St John-Stevens to offer government funds to match the auction price in the knowledge that 75 per cent of the money will return to the Treasury in taxes.

The manuscript, written in about 1507, is a collection of notes on water, geology and biology in Latin. It contains mirror-writing, with 360 small illustrations. It is in a seven-century red morocco binding, and was bought by the first Earl in 1717.

The trustees had a similar

objection to the auction sale.

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HOME NEWS

Black Paper' writers launch fierce attack on bureau's comprehensive schooling report

Diana Goddess
Education Correspondent

researchers at the highly regarded National Children's Bureau, which has recently published findings suggesting that children do just as well in comprehensive schools as in grammar schools, were accused of trying to pull off one of the greatest educational tricks for many years", reading at a press conference in London. Mrs Caroline Cox and Mr John Marks, both contributors to the right-wing

Papers on Education, said the bureau's report, "is a second school by the same name". They said all the published results had been "selected or 'doctored'" as Mrs Cox put it, to allow for differences between pupils' background factors such as scores at 11, social class, sex and degree of parental income.

The report was "so biased" in its interpretation of its own data that it is hard to avoid the suspicion that those concerned, with its production, including the advisory group on which the Department of Education and Science was represented, were culpable of gross partiality and/or influenced by vested interests". Mrs Cox and Mr Marks said:

The bureau's study, which

Air UK to trim routes and shed 400 jobs

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

first test case of the new legislation's secondary picketing entered yesterday by the home intervention of the Conciliation and Service (Acas) in a Derbyshire shop.

Sitting before Judge Sir Robert Bennett at Nottingham, the shop steward, who was of illegal secondary picketing under the Employment Act, was adjourned by the court, was an agreement had been reached between Airship Repairs Co and the Transport Workers' Union.

Mr Rattcliffe, managing director of Airship Repairs Co, said there had been "enthusiastic intervention" and a new pay offer was put to the workers.

He refused to disclose details of the offer, but agreed that it would be £100 per week for a claim for an extra week, £15 more than the company had offered at a meeting. Mr Keith, a senior shop steward at the factory at Shipton, said: "It is an illegal secondary picket, but the company's hubris at Ashbourne, 14

was funded by a £35,000 government grant, was based on data collected by the bureau's national child development study which has been monitoring since their birth the progress of 16,000 children all born in the same week in March 1958.

The study on children's progress in secondary schools was commissioned by the last Labour Government and has received financial support from the present Government. An advisory team, chaired by Professor Albert Halsey of Oxford University, and including four assessors from the Department of Education and Science, was appointed by Mrs Shirley Williams, then Secretary of State for Education.

Professor Halsey said yesterday that the bureau was a serious research organization, and that its report was sound, unbiased and non-partisan. He had been particularly impressed by the research's fair-minded and objective approach.

The National Children's Bureau said that it "sternly rejected the unjustified and emotive allegations".

Red Concern: An appraisal of the National Children's Bureau's report on Progress in Secondary Schools, £1.25, published by the Centre for Policy Studies, 3 Warwick Street, London SW1E 8PL, £2.40.

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itchall inaction in face of growing holism criticized at conference

Ecclesone

cation of civil servants in growing alcoholism was strongly criti- cized at a symposium on the ion of alcoholics year.

said that, nine years publication of a Home King party report, no attempt had been made to implement the three recommendations on hab- itual offenders:

the Department of Social Security was from commitments undertaken in 1973 by the circular 217/73.

Health department was saying publicly that it wanted more strict controls, he said, while turning down an application for a third at St Thomas's Hospital, London.

"Detoxification centres are nowhere near as effective as police and court time or putting people in prison." The police and probation service speak highly of them, but the policy

matters, who are remote and bureaucratic, do not seem to recognize the problem," he said.

A Home Office working party, which met between 1967 and 1971, recommended that 2,000 places should urgently be made available in hospital detoxification centres. The eventual target was 5,000 places. So far the figure was 790 after nine years, with support for those being cut.

Mr Timothy Cook, a former director of the alcohol recovery project in South London, told the symposium that civil servants had played a part in crippling developments in the field of alcoholism.

People were still getting research grants to demonstrate that too many people in prison had drink problems, he said, while that had been well known since 1966. At the time, he said, "drinkers" and others in the field were repeatedly made to prove themselves to civil servants in order to secure their own grants.

Two jailed for corruptly arranging home mortgages

From Our Correspondent

A former building society loans chief and a Midlands insurance broker were jailed by Leeds Crown Court, yesterday, for corruptly arranging loans for home buyers during a mortgage famine.

In return for corrupt payments Philip Woodmansey, who was the senior assistant manager in the loans department, approved mortgages for people who were unlikely to obtain advances.

Over four years Mr Woodmansey, aged 41, allowed loans of about £400,000 to clients, many of whom had no connection with the Leeds Permanent Building Society where he worked in the head office.

Mr Woodmansey, who had money difficulties caused by his living beyond his means, accepted a total of £126,000 from two insurance companies.

Mr Woodmansey, of Barfield Crescent, Moortown, Leeds, pleaded guilty to eight corruption charges, one of theft, and one of deception. He was jailed for 18 months.

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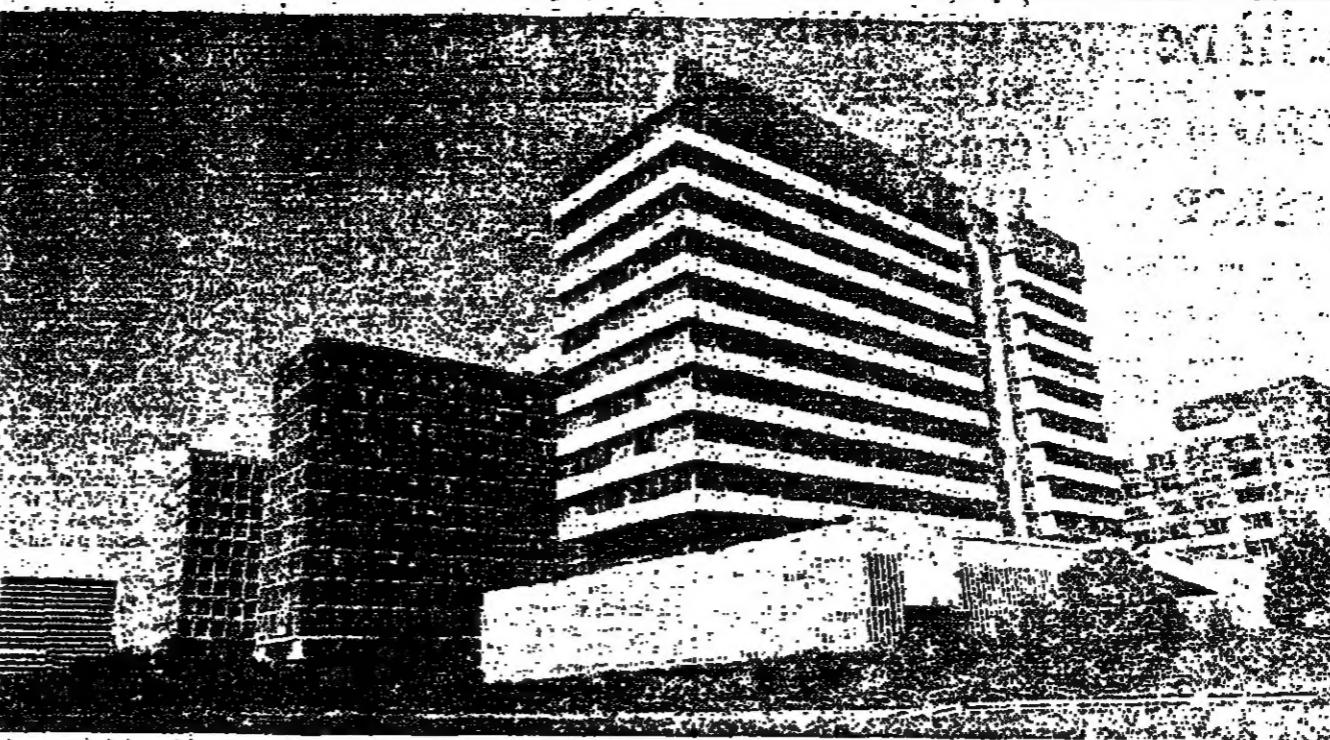
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storms have brought homelessness and to thousands. There is a desperate shortage of supplies and other essentials, especially aid and relief.

Aged sister organisation, the Disaster Relief Unit of Helpage India, was the first to team in the stricken area and has already ure thousand sick people.

It needs more supplies. Through the team you good Samaritan to someone in great need. A generous gift is needed soon. It will be put to

Please send to: Hon. Treasurer, The Red Cross Appeal, Room 11, FREEPOST 30, London, W1E 7JZ



A row of office blocks showing Basingstoke's material prosperity and its lack of architectural inspiration. Photograph by John Manning

The disfigurement of Britain 3: Basingstoke, bred in a failure of imagination

Overspill planning has swallowed a town

By John Young

"Of course the local people resented it. Their town has not only been taken over; it has been 'destroyed'." Thus a colleague in *The Times* quoted a Basingstoke social worker two and a half years ago. His comment is truer today.

Local market town called Basingstoke for residents can be discerned in what the signs posts refer to as the "upper town".

But who, a generation from now, will remember it? It has been surrounded and swallowed up by a new town characterized by a monotony and lack of inspiration that is probably unsurpassed anywhere in Britain.

Services are to be improved on the Southampton to Exeter route; Jersey to Paris and the Exeter to Amsterdam and to Paris routes. The new and elusive tour operator operations, using a fleet of four BAC 1-11, will continue as before.

The aircraft to be grounded are seven Dart Herald 50-seaters and three British-made Baderline 70-seaters. That will leave the airline with a fleet on scheduled services of 11 Fokker 50-seaters, eight Heralds and three Baderines.

Air United Kingdom was established in January after a merger of Air Anglia and British Island Airways.

Mr Peter Viles, managing director, said yesterday: "When Air UK came into being we knew the times ahead would be difficult. Nobody could have seen just how quickly the decline would come, nor the farcical of it."

"The traffic this year looks like being some 15 per cent down on budget, and yet we are continually having to battle against inflation, higher airport charges, spiralling fuel costs and economic pressure for lower fares."

The end result of this climate for cheaper and easier travel could be the continued reduction of regional services by all airlines."

In addition there were the difficulties of young ethnic minorities and a future in which society would have to grapple with increased leisure.

He suggested that the way forward did not lie in reorganization of the police service to please those who demanded more police accountability. Mr Whittlesey again repudiated the idea of greater local government influence in police affairs.

But he added: "I think it has become increasingly desirable that police authorities should see themselves not just providers of resources but as a means whereby the chief constable can give account of his policing policy... and they should express to him the views of the community on these policies."

He welcomed the efforts being made by many forces to improve community policing. Good relations between the police and the public were especially important in areas of mixed ethnic populations.

The police needed to promote close contacts with leaders of minority groups.

The best form of policing was that which emanated from within the community, but vigilante groups were not acceptable.

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HOME NEWS

'Stand firm' will be constituency call to Tory conference

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

The motion most critical of the Government selected for debate at the Conservative conference in Brighton between October 10 and 10 changes it with failing to communicate its message to the people". Party officers yesterday suggested that the motion was typical conference fare, but their conference agenda itself points to part of the difficulty.

Not until the second day of the conference will the Conservatives debate unemployment; and only on the third day will they debate economic policy, with the overriding message that the Government's stand firm.

The agenda, published yesterday, reflects what Sir Charles Johnston, chairman of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations executive committee, called the party's "supporters' sense of wishing them well, but in no way letting the Government off the hook."

In fact, in contrast to the rising call from industry and commerce for a cut in interest rates, the main theme in 108 motions submitted on economic and taxation policy is for the Government not to weaken now; if anything, to be even tougher in public spending cuts. The 1,125 motions were, of course, submitted in July.

The support given must, Sir Charles said, "undoubtedly be encouraging to the Government

Heirlooms sale may reach £150,000

From Frances Gibb
Brading, Isle of Wight

as it enters the critical phase of its life".

Why the conference was launching its proceedings with a rather defensive reaction to the Labour Party proposal to abolish the House of Lords, Sir Charles could not explain; he said there was strong feeling in the constituencies.

The most difficult debate will be faced by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment. He will reply to a motion which states that the role of the trade union movement is to advise and to be consulted but not to negotiate with the Government. It urges the Government to continue the review of the privileges enjoyed by unions to bring the law closer to the views of the majority.

The agenda makers will possibly come in for most party criticism for their selection of a gentle motion on race relations. It welcomes changes made by the Government to strengthen the legal position of immigrants and asserts that changes of attitude can best be effected through goodwill and not through unenforceable legislation or coercion.

Somewhat surprisingly, there are no debates scheduled on two of the Government's acclaimed policy successes. The EEC budget is mentioned not at all, and Europe is only referred to in motions on policy towards the Soviet block and food production.

Curiosities included a pair of buffalo horns covered with leather which went for £18, and a dented glass case of tropical birds which went for £75.

At the other end of the range, £3,000 was paid for a sailing scene by Dominic Serres, the eighteenth-century English School artist, and £3,000 for a seventeenth-century Aubusson tapestry of exotic birds. By the end of today, Phillips, the auctioneers, expect a total of about £150,000.

Negotiations are under way for the purchase of the 12-room house, on the market at £150,000. The original manor house was destroyed by fire in 1552 when the family moved into the present, the Tudor House, once a farmhouse.

Lord Thorneycroft to stay

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Lord Thorneycroft ended speculation that he might retire as chairman of the Conservative Party after this year's conference by announcing yesterday that he would continue for at least another year, "God willing".

He returned from a painting holiday in Greece to find premature political obituaries in the press, and wondered

Home is a haunted fortress in tormented Fermanagh

A picture-postcard hell in Ulster

From Christopher Thomas
Lisnaske, Co Fermanagh

Down a remote country lane just inside the Ulster border in Fermanagh, an ordinary-looking house stands isolated in a picture-postcard setting of lakes and hills. But the house is far from ordinary and life is a nightmare for the people who live there.

The roof there are two flares ready to be launched at the touch of a button. One will cover the house and surrounding fields in brilliant light, the other will give a loud explosion.

The windows are double-glazed, with a difference. The inner layer is made of a new material strong enough to repel bullets of considerable velocity. It shatters out much of the daylight; even in brilliant sunshine, the rooms seem dull.

On the wall a bullet-proof vest hangs from a hook and is doored over for visitors' safety. The family car is locked in a garage every night, not to protect it from the elements, but to stop a bomb being attached.

The owner of the house goes

somewhere without his gun, a weighty American-made Ruger, a six-shot repeater firing .357 Magnum bullets. He takes it to church on Sundays.

The intense caution is necessary for one reason. The man is a policeman living near the border; a vulnerable and comparatively easy target for the IRA, which has shown increasing emphasis on border areas.

The protection afforded to members of the security forces who live in dangerous areas can never be more than a slight deterrent to the would-be killer. The death this year of three men, connected with the police or the Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) near the village of Newtownbutler, is evidence of that.

Going out after dark is a nightmare for soldiers and policemen, and for their families. A man might go out for 12 or even 24 hours on the job with the UDR, and those left waiting at home do not sleep well; they tune constantly to the local news bulletins. It is a formula for nervous disorders, depression and despair.

The Laker campaign is carried

Many children needlessly in care, group says

From David Wood
Strasbourg, Sept 17

More than eight thousand children are needlessly taken into care by local authorities every year, the National Council for One Parent Families said yesterday.

Many parents also find it difficult to get their children back once they have been placed in care, even though circumstances may have changed. That over-protective attitude by local authorities was costing £20m a year, the council said.

Speaking to a national conference of social services chiefs in Durham yesterday, Mr Harry Fletcher, the council's senior advice worker, said independent assessment of care cases was needed.

In two thirds of the care cases investigated by the national council over the past three years, it had disagreed in one way or another with the recommendations of social services departments.

Keith Flynn is incurable.



But at least he can "communicate"

Keith Flynn was a busy chef working in Chelsea until he was seriously injured in a road accident. He is now almost totally paralysed and virtually unable to speak. But he can still "talk" to people with the aid of the special communicator with which we have provided him. He is also helped by skilled speech therapy and equally skilled nursing.

We have over 270 severely disabled and incurable patients like Keith to care for. We cannot cure them. But we can help them. Skilled care can minimise their disabilities as much as possible and can help them lead as full a life as possible. But we, too, need help. We are not part of the Health Service and we rely a lot on the generosity of the compassionate.

YOU CAN HELP us with a donation, a deed of covenant, or a bequest.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL & HOME FOR INCURABLES
(Putney and Brighton), Dept. TH West Hill, Putney, London SW15 3SW.
Patrons: HM The Queen and HM The Queen Mother.
Director of Appeals and Publicity: Air Commodore D. F. Rixson, OBE, AFC.

Supporter with flick knife jailed for nine months

An Everton supporter was jailed for nine months at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday for having a flick knife at a football match.

Jerry Koper, aged 25, of Borrowdale Road, Liverpool, who pleaded guilty to having an offensive weapon was seen fighting with rival supporters on the Park End terrace of the Everton ground on March 8.

Another supporter, Michael Scary, aged 21, of The Horseshoe Oldbury, West Midlands, who was involved in fighting after the match between Wolverhampton and West Bromwich Albion, was fined £100 by magistrates at Walsall, West Midlands.

He admitted behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace. Three other supporters who admitted similar offences were fined a total of £50.

WEST EUROPE

Beef joins veal in French drug dispute

From Ian Murray
Paris, Sept 17

An inquiry to show that French beef as well as veal is being treated with a dangerous hormone drug has been carried out by the consumer magazine 50 Millions des Consommateurs. But the issue has yet to appear in the *Le Monde* and on the magazine said today that the Ministry of Agriculture had "intervened because the article criticized it".

The ministry has already reacted to a real boycott called a week ago. The official position is that if the boycott were effective it would cause serious unemployment. Meanwhile, it is trying to stop breeders using the hormone.

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Yesterday 200 villagers, holidaymakers and dealers watched as portraits, silver, clocks, books and other antiques went "under the hammer".

Mrs Margaret Oglander, the present owner, whose husband died four years ago, has been forced to sell both the house and contents because she can no longer afford its upkeep.

She said that she had sold many of the抗iques packed in the attic. She did not know where they were there. "They were bought by one generation and found by the next."

A group of portraits of Charles I, the family's most distinguished guest, painted by Robert Strange, after Van Dyck, together with a document thought to bear the king's signature, fetched £200.

The boycott call was made on the grounds that the meat is of poor quality, potentially dangerous for the consumer and a waste of energy". The alleged danger is side-effects caused by the hormone injected into the young animal to make them gain weight. It contains a toxin believed to cause cancer and deformities in humans.

Publication of the 170,000 copies of the consumer magazine has been delayed so that the director, M-Pierre Fauchon, can alter the inquiry article, which was originally entitled "No longer eat beef", which reverses the wording of old British advertising slogan.

M. Fauchon said he had received a number of telephone calls from M-Pierre Méhaignerie, the Minister of Agriculture, warning him to be very careful about what he printed in the magazine and warning him of the large damages that could be awarded for libel.

M. Méhaignerie said today that if everyone throws himself into a boycott campaign and says anything he likes without listening to what the people who have been working on the subject for 20 years have to say, just where will we end up?

A big drop in meat consumption would cause an agricultural crisis. Much of the French surplus is fed to calves, so dairy farmers could also be affected.

There are few good words about security in the border areas to be heard from members of the security forces who live there. They cannot understand the continual assertions of the police and army that more men have been deployed.

Many border crossings have been blocked by the Army with large ranks of concrete, but in truth the job has not been carried out effectively. Sometimes the barriers cannot be removed to allow passage.

The barriers cannot be said to offer much protection against the IRA, which is, in fact, the main risk to be taken into account by the people who live in this tormented corner of Northern Ireland.

Third party fear they may be forgotten in a mutual slanging match

Free Democrats fight in their Bremen redoubt

From Roger Bertrand
Bremen, Sept 17

The once-independent Hanseatic city of Bremen, West Germany's second largest port after Hamburg, has long been a stronghold of the Social Democrats. In these federal elections it is again a city state, and the Social Democrats have governed it alone since 1971 through the *Land* government.

Bremen is also a redoubt of the Free Democratic Party (FDP) and of a liberal independent spirit which helped the FDP gain 12.8 per cent of the vote in the 1976 federal elections, almost double the national average.

When polling day comes on October 5, the FDP, who have been in coalition with the Social Democrats in Bremen since 1969, are afraid they may be forgotten after weeks of mutual slanging between Hans-Ernst Götzen, the Chancellor, and Frau Nischelsky, the up-and-coming leader of the Free Democrats.

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Bremen is also a redoub

VERSEAS

Rave concern in West over Seoul decision to hang opposition leader

From Foreign Staff
A West has reacted with concern to the "death sentence passed yesterday on Kim Dae Jung, the South Korean opposition leader. He has told the South Korean Ambassador in Tokyo that relations between the two countries would be impaired if execution were ahead. The US has urged clemency and Edmund Muskie, the American Secretary of State, reiterated Washington's "concern".

On Sept 17, a five-man court took just six hours to sum up the evidence before handing the sentence by hanging. (Jacqueline writes.)

Kim's wife, who like her husband is a devout Roman Catholic, was not present but family members stood up during the sentence and to sing the Korean national anthem. They were hustled out of the court.

23 other defendants, with aiding Mr Kim, Mr Lee Hwang, a Protestant, and Professor Lee Sung, were both sentenced to prison for political activities in Japan prior to his abduction.

During the trial, however, the prosecutors used Mr Kim's activities in Japan as evidence.

Under the terms of the agreement, the South Korean Government assured the Japanese that Mr Kim would not be prosecuted for political activities in Japan prior to his abduction.

On the eve of the murder, an unidentified caller had told a news agency in Istanbul by telephone that Dev-Yol would begin a series of political assassinations.

In other developments, General Kemal Yavuz, the martial law commander of the eastern Turkish provinces, said in a communiqué today that "one terrorist was killed and three were captured" in a clash with military units near Siverek, in the south-eastern province of Ufusa.

It was in this province that in the days prior to the military coup last Friday, members of the Kurdish separatist organization "Apoco" had killed a number of soldiers.

In Ankara, informed sources reported that members of the Ankara Martial Law Command, headed by police, had arrested "hundreds of people" in former "liberated zones", held by extremists.

Reports of political personalities being arrested were still unconfirmed today, but one source reported that fewer than 50 arrests of former MPs had so far been verified. These included 24 from the Republican People's Party, 11 from the Justice Party, eight or nine from the extreme right-wing Nationalist Action Party, five from the National Salvation Party, and two independents.

The leaders of the four main parties are still under protection custody.

The first test for the new military administration in foreign affairs will come next week in Strasbourg, when the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe meets on September 24.

Four former MPs, two from the Republican People's Party, one from the Justice Party, and one independent senator, are scheduled to attend the meeting.

Leading article, page 15

Afghan remanded in bes investigation

she Brilliant
Sept 17
the Gabai, aged 55, a long Israel Government was remanded for 15 years in connection with long police investigation allegations of bribery opinion in the Ministry Affairs. He was a person remanded by the investigation.

studying confidentially by the police, Mr Gabai, the magistrate, a of the material in Mr Gabai, as adviser Minister. The case was less heavily on the of Mr Yisrael Gotsman (Western) establishment to discredit Mr Aharon Abuhasira, the Minister for Religious Affairs, who is an immigrant from Morocco.

They said the Afghans were out to eliminate a rising Sephardi (Eastern) leader. Rallies in support of the minister and protest demonstrations were organized.

President Yitzhak Navon himself, a Sephardi, expressed concern over the possible build up of ethnic tension.

Carrington defends port for PLO role

spanier
Correspondent
Carrington, the Foreign told leaders of the community last night, understood Israeli about security, but a Liberation Organization to be associated settlement.

that it is undeniably Lord Carrington the meeting, which is London at the s of the Board of British Jews, that represent a very large section.

to say you cannot it an organization

that they do not like or do not approve of or which is engaged in terrorism; cannot sustain that argument, in my opinion.

Before an audience of about 400 the Foreign Secretary was asked a number of questions about British policy towards Israel. The Government was accused of having changed its position by lending support to the PLO.

Lord Carrington said in reply that the Venice declaration by the EEC was deliberately even handed in balancing Israeli security on the one hand with the rights of Palestinians on the other. This had to be the basis of any solution in the Middle East.

He said that he had met the American Ambassador in Kabul this week is he a 21-year-old son in one of the offices of the Soviet Union on the outer of Kabul's international airport.

is believed to have himself at the main embassy on the

at 7.30 am with a boy rifle in his

defector is held in custody by the American in the former chief's wing which is a special reinforcement. American security within premises is the all embassies in time.

Foreign Minister asked by Mr in the American day to ensure the security of the premises and the dignity and privileges

Big manhunt for killers of Istanbul policeman

From Sinan Fisek
Ankara, Sept 17

Terrorists belonging to "Dev-Yol", the most active of Turkey's underground leftist organizations, have apparently kept a promise that they would increase their activities with the murder of a police inspector today in the Istanbul suburb of Sarigerme.

Inspector Aykut Genç and his wife, also a member of the police force, were driving to work when two young men armed with automatic weapons opened fire on their car. Mr Genç was killed immediately and his wife was taken to hospital with a leg wound.

A massive manhunt was launched in the area, and informed sources reported that the killers had been identified.

On the eve of the murder, an unidentified caller had told a news agency in Istanbul by telephone that Dev-Yol would begin a series of political assassinations.

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Leading article, page 15

Hope of deal on Iran hostages

Continued from page 1
at Abadan, site of the world's biggest oil refinery.

In his messages to the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, North Yemen and other Gulf emirates, President Husain of Iraq explained the background to the current fighting on the Iraqi-Iranian borders and sought these countries' support.

"Declaration of War": There is no immediate formal reaction from Iran to Iraq's cancellation today of the agreement, one presidential staff member called it a "declaration of war" by Saddam. (Reuters reports from Tehran).

Inquiry accepted: The United States has accepted the principle of an inquiry commission to look into "relations between the United States and the Shah". President Bani-Sadr announced today. (Agence France-Presse reports from Tehran).

In his personal view, he said in an exclusive interview with the agency, this would satisfy Iran's demands concerning America's crimes in Iran.

One of the preconditions for the US to accept the inquiry commission is that the US

Senate, which has been

referred to as "the

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OVERSEAS

Clash over election proposal leaves Dr Obote's party virtually in control of Uganda

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, Sept 17

The Uganda People's Congress (UPC), led by Dr Milton Obote, who was President of Uganda until the 1971 military coup, virtually took over the Government today.

The power shift comes after a clash between Mr Paulo Muwanga, chairman of the ruling Military Commission, and members of his Cabinet who are not in the People's Congress over the allocation of seats for Uganda's first parliamentary elections since independence in 1962.

Mr Muwanga called on 11 ministers (about a quarter of the total) to resign or be dismissed for failing to support what he said was a Cabinet decision on the size of the next Parliament. All 11 support the Democratic Party, the Uganda People's Movement (UPNM) of the Conservative Party, all of which have repeatedly complained of government bias towards the UPC.

Among the 11 is Mr Yoweri Museveni, the deputy chairman of the Military Commission, who is also the Head of the UPNM.

The crisis broke in the National Consultative Council (Uganda's interim parliament) yesterday, when Mr Wilson Okwenje, the Minister of Cabinet Affairs, said that all members of the Government must accept the principle of collective responsibility.

The interim parliament was considering the first of a series of Bills for the coming elections, which fixes the number of seats at 326. The 11 supported an amendment—which was defeated by 48 votes to 39—to increase the number to 440.

A Uganda radio broadcast a statement today from Mr Muwanga asking the 11 to either resign or be dismissed. "It would be in the interest of



Mr Paulo Muwanga: Call for Cabinet resignations.



Dr Milton Obote: His party backs election Bill.

the country if they chose the former," Mr Muwanga said.

He revealed in the statement that the Cabinet proposal of 126 seats had already been opposed by an all-party committee set up to look into election matters. But Mr Muwanga said the Cabinet had rejected the committee's view.

When the council met again today, non-UPC members boycotted the meeting. But the 45 UPC members present (less than half the membership) elected a new chairman and voted unanimously in favour of the Government's Bill.

Dr Obote called a private meeting of all UPC members of the National Consultative Council in Kampala this week. The meeting is thought to have discussed the party's strategy for the election, due to take place on September 30. However, that date is clearly impossible to meet as circumstances have not yet been defined and no electoral rolls have been drawn up.

Commander in Noumea retired early

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Sept 17

General Jean Barthélémy, the commander of the French forces in New Caledonia, has been retired eight months ahead of schedule, after a protest by the Australian Government that its consul-general in Noumea was insulted at an official ceremony.

The General had made it clear in the consul-general that his presence at the ceremony was undesirable, following incidents at Port Vila, the capital of the new state of Vanuatu (formerly the New Hebrides) involving French nationals from the rebel island of Espiritu Santo.

Troops from Papua New Guinea commanded by former Australian Army officers took over on Espiritu Santo from the Anglo-French intervention forces, after the proclamation of independence for the new Hebrides on July 30, and a secessionist movement broke out.

The French nationals were allegedly ill-treated by the troops.

The consul-general complained to Canberra about General Barthélémy's attitude.

Gen Walls dismissed from Zimbabwe post

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, Sept 17

President Banana of Zimbabwe has officially relieved Lieutenant-General Peter Walls of his post as Chief of the Joint High Command. "Other action" against him is being considered.

General Walls, who has been on leave pending retirement, is in Europe until the end of the year. In Parliament today Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, said the general's post had officially terminated from September 15.

Speaking as Prime Minister and Defence Minister, Mr Mugabe said General Walls, senior civil servants and military officials had pledged their loyalty to his government.

He had decided to retain the general until the end of the year, to help with the formation of the new Zimbabwe Army.

Earlier this year Lieutenant-General Walls said he could not carry out the task allotted to him unless he was promoted to the rank of full general and this I refused to do. He then applied for leave pending retirement, which the Prime Minister granted.

While on leave the general made statements which "caused

me grave doubts as to his loyalty to my government," Mr Mugabe said. The general said he believed there was the possibility of a civil war in Zimbabwe and admitted having written to the British Government asking for the February elections to be annulled because of intimidation by Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party.

His statements have done much harm to Zimbabwe both internally and externally...

For these reasons he had decided to dismiss General Walls. Other measures were being considered.

When a Rhodesian Front member asked what measures he had in mind and whether they would be in accordance with the constitution and with General Walls' pension, Mr Mugabe said: "When we take action as a government we do it in accordance with the powers of that government."

Salisbury police have arrested 16 men in connection with attacks and intimidation over the past week, in which two people died and many were injured. The violence has been ascribed to rivalry between Zanu (PF) and Patriotic Front party supporters.

Economy may yet prove to be the Achilles heel of 'Papa Anwar'

Egypt's alienation in Arab world still rankles

The inrush of five articles on the spirit of Camp David by Richard Owen, of The Times, who has recently returned from a tour of the Middle East, begins tomorrow on Monday.

Field Marshal Muhammad Abdul Ghani al-Gamassi is a tall, distinguished, straight-backed soldier of the old school, with a gentle smile and a sharp military mind. He has been personal adviser to President Anwar Sadat on military affairs since 1978.

As General Gamassi, he was Egyptian Minister of Defence after the October war of 1973, and Chief of Staff during the war itself. He is thus closely connected with Egypt's recovery of faith in itself as a nation, both on the battlefield and in the world at large.

Breaking the silence he has maintained since his appointment as President Sadat's right-hand man, Field Marshal Gamassi told *The Times* in an interview in Cairo that Egypt is by and large at ease with its position as a bastion of Western influence in the Middle East, but greatly apprehensive about Soviet designs in the area.

Egypt had received \$1.5 billion in military aid since the Camp David negotiations, in which General Gamassi took part. But America had to do more to maintain a convincing presence in an area which has been strategically unseated by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the Islamic revolution in Iran.

The American "Rapid Deployment Force", intended as a counterweight to possible Soviet moves in and around the Gulf, exists only on paper and would not be ready for "at least five or six years".

In the meantime, the presidential advisor said, the Soviet threat was growing. Russia has a grip on South Yemen and Ethiopia, and has designs not only on the Gulf but also on North Africa. It has never abandoned its ambitions in Sudan, Egypt's neighbour, or

for that matter in Egypt itself.

In the northern Mediterranean, completing the "pincer" movement, Moscow has a foothold in Syria and Iraq, and—so Field Marshal Gamassi believes—would like to take advantage of the troubles in "turbulent Turkey".

The Americans, for their part, have concluded agreements with Kenya, Jordan and Saudi Arabia for the use of military facilities, thus providing, in theory, at least an "arc" of security for the United States and its allies in the Gulf, the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea.

Egypt obviously has reason to feel safer with this "arc" in place, and indeed is considering another link in the chain itself. The isolated fishing port of Ras Banas, on the shore of the Red Sea opposite Saudi Arabia, is to be developed as a United States military base, at an estimated cost of \$400m.

The problem is that the use of such a base is highly sensitive matter for the Egyptians, who were embarrassed when it became known that United States troops had used Egypt as a "staging post" during their failed attempt to rescue the American hostages in Iran.

President Sadat's initiative for peace had "turned the Middle East upside down", and three years later, the Arabs had still not come up with any workable alternative, Dr Boutros Ghali

said.

It was true that Camp David had "run into difficulties" over Palestinian autonomy. But the spirit of Camp David was still very much alive, and the present set of negotiations would be succeeded by some other formula still within the same framework and spirit. The Arabs, he remained dryly, need Egypt more than Egypt needs the Arabs.

There are sections of Egyptian society which disagree. Egypt's commitment to the West and accommodation with "the Jewish state" have disturbed not only the left-wing intellectuals who form the unofficial opposition, but also many of the country's Muslims, who form 90 per cent of the population.

The possibility of a convergence between the left and the more fundamentalist Muslims keeps some of President Sadat's supporters awake at night.

There are also some four million Coptics, who claim to be pure descendants of the ancient

Russian missile superiority increases

By Henry Stanhope

Defence Correspondent
The East-West balance in medium range missiles and aircraft, the so-called Theatre Nuclear Forces (TNF), will grow steadily worse during the next few years, the International Institute for Strategic Studies said today.

As a result the Americans and Russians, who are meeting next month for talks about talks to control the balance, will have difficulty in agreeing upon their terms of reference.

Scepticism about the chances of early success in the forthcoming discussions, which are to be held in December, is expressed by the institute in *The Military Balance 1980-81*, its annual review of the world's nuclear and conventional forces.

The growing imbalance in TNF is in spite of last December's agreement by Nato to deploy 500 new American nuclear weapons in Europe, including 160 cruise missiles.

The Soviet Union now has between 1.7 and 3.5 times as many TNF warheads as Nato, and the new American weapons will not redress the balance until they start coming into service in about three years' time.

Meanwhile the Soviet inventory is continuing to grow. The number of SS-20 mobile missiles, which can hit almost any target in Western Europe, is "disturbing" with 160 in 1980 against 120 in 1979, while a series of new, shorter-range, missiles, the SS-21, SS-22 and SS-23, are also as threatening.

Moreover the latest generation of Soviet TNF is even more modern than those in the West, like the F-111 and elderly British Vulcan, and would have an estimated 99 per cent chance of penetrating Western defences in reach their targets, as opposed to 23 per cent for Nato aircraft.

The institute is also sceptical about the feasibility of so-called "limited" nuclear exchanges in which the superpowers would strike only at each other's missile sites and military installations.

It believes that the switch in American missile targeting embodied in the recent Presidential Directive 58, is likely to encourage the Soviet Union to redouble its own efforts by eroding Russian confidence in the present strategic balance.

The institute says that the defence debate in the United States is still largely focused on deficiencies in nuclear strategic forces, rather than "the more disturbing shortcomings in conventional forces". These shortcomings include manpower shortages.

But the Soviet Union has been having its problems too, including a mixed response to its calls for increased defence spending from other members of the Warsaw Pact.

Of the 10 largest military establishments in the world however, no fewer than six are now in the developing world. These are China (4.45 million), India (1.100 million), Vietnam (one-million), North Korea (678,000), South Korea (670,000) and Pakistan (438,000). The others are the Soviet Union (\$3,700,000), the United States (two million), Turkey (500,000) and West Germany (495,000).

Salisbury police have arrested 16 men in connection with attacks and intimidation over the past week, in which two people died and many were injured. The violence has been ascribed to rivalry between Zanu (PF) and Patriotic Front party supporters.

His statements have done much harm to Zimbabwe both internally and externally...

For these reasons he had decided to dismiss General Walls. Other measures were being considered.

When a Rhodesian Front member asked what measures he had in mind and whether they would be in accordance with the constitution and with General Walls' pension, Mr Mugabe said: "When we take action as a government we do it in accordance with the powers of that government."

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ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA AND BALLET

COVENT GARDEN, WC2E 8ED, 01-580 6100

THE ROYAL OPERA

DER KUNIGE DER NÜBELN

BY WILHELM HAUFF

CONDUCTOR, RICHARD COX

STYLING, JONATHAN LINDSAY

SET DESIGN, CLAUDIO

CHORUS, ROBERT LINDSAY

SCENIC STYLING, CLAUDIO

WIGS, CLAUDIO

PROPS, CLAUDIO

HAIR, CLAUDIO

MAKEUP, CLAUDIO

DESIGNER, CLAUDIO

SET, CLAUDIO

WIGS, CLAUDIO

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MAKEUP, CLAUDIO

DESIGNER, CLAUDIO

SET, CLAUDIO

WIGS, CLAUDIO

SPORT

Football

Wark scores four in match with crazy pattern at Ipswich

By Gerry Harrison

Ipswich 5 Aris Salomika 1
Three goals within half an hour by the Scottish international, Wark, two of them from the penalty spot; five players cautioned and Firoz, the Greeks most capped player, sent off. These were the wild facts of a hard-fought half at Portman Road last night. And the game followed the same crazy pattern after the break, with two more penalties, two more cautions, and three more goals.

The key figure in a Uefa Cup tie which had the elements of tragedy and farce was England's assistant international, Garris. It was he who, with Aris, who were foiled by his quick-turning, last-falling act.

The Portuguese referee, António Garrido, who was in charge of last year's European Cup final. Immediately demonstrated he was standing on non-sensical feet when he sent off Wark, the Greek, for the wild fact of a hand-foul half at Portman Road last night. And the game followed the same crazy pattern after the break, with two more penalties, two more cautions, and three more goals.

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Every
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real think
Bristol

Magri must keep his chin out of the way in world class company

SRIKUMAR SEN
Foreign Correspondent
For the next few weeks Charlie, the British and European, eight champion, and Terry, the manager and strategist, sit down and compare notes. The learning period over 10 days at the Wembley Conference on Tuesday night, a World Boxing Association plan, Alfonso Lopez, of Mexico, on the merits of keeping one's chin out of the way in world class company.

Though Magri was the door man, what was more surprising than his failure to get to the spot? His task in the middle was the way Lopez caught up over and over again with a good chin, the right side of the button, his chin at the bottom, a hard punch. Magri had been knocked out and was patient, nursing his 18 opponents, would have been more. The problem of who will be the last to see him, and if ever that Magri might remain vulnerable to the counter, or which Lopez is one of the world's leading boxers. What Lopez has against Panamanian fighters—the ring, dipping his ears with the silkiness of a bitching up his sleeves.

It's a bit of a catch now for showing that the glove, which the rough little Steppen could have seen from view. Now we know what to expect from Lopez, of course, the world lion, when he meets him, it will be soon—before Hispanic stonewall does.

British light heavyweight, Paul Fenton, of Carlisle, a good tactical boxer, but not only he in Britain is of whom he is of a mind defence of his title against bloodied (in more ways than one) Lopez.

Ives Thomas won the British belt, bright when Harry stopped the bout two to 25 seconds into the 15th when, while Hopkins a good right eye, broke his hand to spurt blood freely.

Marvin Hagler arrived at Heathrow airport yesterday.

Marvin Hagler arriving at Heathrow airport yesterday.

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New books

On to the millennium

Deliberate Regression

By Robert Harbison

(André Deutsch £8.95)
Robert Harbison makes myths. Or perhaps it would be fairer to say he discovers them where he believes them, self-evidently, always to have been. He is the author-American, 40, living in Britain-of one highly individual collection of cross-cultural essays, *Eccentric Spaces* (1977), and the main thesis of his intelligent but exasperating new book is that the public terrors of the twentieth century may all be deduced from the progress of literature and the arts over the last 250 years.

It is exasperating not because of the ideas it throws up or almost every page-these, on the contrary, are provocative and never dull-but because of the way in which they are expressed. "He could never have thought his innovations would fit with what religion was," writes Harbison, evidently of Puritanism, having cleared his throat, gorged the language and bashed his head against the subject for a bit longer, he finally succeeds in bringing ends and means beautifully into line:

From this man who made constitutions cannot express doubts by which he might test his convictions, we learn only what he wanted, to think he thought.

The summary is perfect, but the method, alas, recurs throughout. It is as if he is training in front of our eyes. Some sentences do yield on a second or third reading, I suppose, but many do not simply because a small, vital word-a verb, a conjunction-is missing.

Mr Harbison and his publisher ignore virtually all punctuation save the comma and the full stop, and for ideas of this density and interest, the comma and the full stop are not enough. Indeed the book hardly seems to have been edited, in the accepted sense of the word, at all; the notes at the end, for example, are lucid and informative, but disconnected from the text which they help to explain.

He begins with Watteau and ends on the Guling Archipelago;



Mr Blanchard as Pantaloons from *Bring on the Clowns* by Beryl Hugill (David & Charles, £9.50).

Watteau invents a disturbing Arcadian memory, and Solzhenitsyn impales a lie. Harbison loves two cities for their sake, for keeping people spirits up, and one cheer for Stalin for letting them know the score. With Stalin at least you knew where you were (dead, presumably, one way or the other); contrast the millenarian forebodings of today, with art and society in total disarray. "It is not always easy," he writes on a nice too rare occasion of dry wit, "to separate an authentic sense of doom from desire for personal importance of one kind or another, like the wish to live at the end of time."

For *Deliberate Regression* is all ideas and no criticism. It is clear that Harbison feels sympathy for the nightmares of Ruskin and the primitivism of Blake, and distaste for the artificialities, as he sees them, of *Parsifal* and Holman Hunt, but the word "great" occurs only twice. I believe, and that to describe objects which also happen to be very large: Veronese's sculpture "Factory Worker and Collective Farm Labourer"; Fred like a rocket from the Soviet Pavilion at the Paris Exhibition of 1937; and *The Raft and the Cockpit*, volume one of *Mystagogies* by

Claude Lévi-Strauss. Critical reticence on such a scale is disconcerting.

It is not possible, in fact, to bend the greatest creative genius to schematic cultural history of this kind—which is, I suspect, why Mr Harbison has left so many of them out of his book—but on secondary phenomena like the cult of Ossian, Rungé, Pugin, Morris or the Pre-Raphaelites, the approach often works marvellously well—a page or two at a time. Ossian, for example, emerges as the classic case of a take-the-inevitability-of-whose-invention was proved by its enormous success; a Celtic Homer had clearly been required in the seventh decade of the nineteenth century, and the European Romantic movement's enormous enrichment deservedly.

The stories lost, sometimes retrieved in MacCormac's Ossian may look trivial to us now, but the hopeless pursuit of ideal beauty by both Winckelmann and Ruskin still marks the disintegration of Mentity and time in Tristam, become at times almost too painful to bear. The search for a memory that might never have existed is indeed the most moving theme I take away from Mr Harbison's book. It unites the melancholy absorptions of Watteau to the pagan landscapes of Friedrich (how right he is to question the received assumption of Friedrich's Christian piety), the jewelled medievalisms of Burgos to the dazzling reductions of Kandinsky.

What it all has to do with twentieth century militarism, on the other hand, I am still not quite sure, and I do not believe Mr Harbison is, either. History and art are rarely seen to meet in the manner intended, because the history in *Deliberate Regression* is largely assumed and the art is selective. At the moment he is a thinker with plenty to say, who cripes himself with a structure, grammar, vocabulary, and punctuation tantalisingly inadequate to the task of giving brilliant intuitions a sustained argument and shape. To read his book is a bore, but his ambition is worth the fight,

Michael Ratchiffe

Fiction

Dead Centre

By Christopher Wood

(Michael Joseph, £5.95)

Spirit Wrestler

By James Houston

(Collins, £5.95)

The Crow Eaters

By Bapsi Sidhwa

(Cape, £5.95)

Dead Centre is largely about a trial by ordeal, to the limits of human endurance. Christopher Wood's punning title refers to a conventional young wife and mother's journey to Central Australia in an almost fatalistic search for her husband. He, apparently just an orthodontist, vanishes and disappears while employed by an organization whose objects, or even existence, become ever more dubious.

The girl's prolonged agonies of thirst and physical suffering in the harsh, burn-up interior are as vivid and temporary as anything imaginable. Given the unlikely "cure" that launches Mary, alone, on an all but suicidal errand, the horrific tension drives compulsively forward through page after page. There is a touch of

James Bondishness, certainly—Christopher Wood has written some of those screenplays—in her wilful inducing of unnecessary disasters, yet there is much more to it than that.

The burning question is not just whether David has survived, but what kind of man he can be, with a strong suspicion that he is an unscrupulous meddler exploiting the Aborigines. These Protean twists of the unknown David mirror skillful twists of plot, leading to a gradual exploration of the marriage. By comparison with the immensely satisfying story and unexpected denouement, the ending is just a bit too slick.

We insatiable westerners are often bowdared shown up as ill-mannered louts like Aborigines, Africans or whatever. In *Spirit Wrestler*, a sympathetic account of life on Bell Buckle, Tennessee, James Houston's disarmingly frank attitude through the medium of Shooko, a young epileptic who also has to undergo an ordeal, this time to become a shaman. Among unexplained mysteries is the identity of a mysterious white visitor collecting old-style kayaks in order to attempt the Eskimo Roll, who seems to have been sighted earlier in circumstances where no man could possibly survive alone.

Then there is Shooko's shamans' skills, a weird compound of trickery and true mystical insight. As a man he is ineffectually unable to impart the magic

real, can't even hunt, and in the event his powers bring about nothing but harm. What appears most to the imagination in this book is its glimpse into the islanders' semi-nomadic life, their warm customs of hospitality and strong social taboos, in habitat which is almost more climate and atmosphere than it is landscape.

India comes next, with *The Crow Eaters*, a first novel of immense charm. Bapsi Sidhwa rambles through the ups and downs of a Parsi family in Lahore from about 1900 to 1940, with a joyful consequence that is always refreshing and never dull. Handsome, debonair, Faredon, jungle-walls, Freddy for short, described for some reason as abnormally wily, is a maddled, endearing paternimilis. Apart that is, from a pardonable attempt to dispose by murder of his abominable mother-in-law, which to his chagrin stops short at arson.

In spare yet elegant phrases Mrs Sidhwa ranges through India's rich variety, from the complexities of Freddy's religion, Zoroastrianism, to the 1920s society-life of Lahore and Bombay, a formal evening in a discreet brothel, and the wedding night of two boys in a train after their elaborate marriage ceremony. For all her novelties of presentation and disorganized material, much can be forgiven a writer of such exuberance who so consistently imparts the magic

of today's fought-over Africa. The characters we meet are intriguing and well-drawn.

The book even propounds a theme that, if I have understood it rightly, man is by nature incurably devous but that this very devousness is a virtue as well as a vice. With all this going for it, it ought to be not only that modest best-seller (absurd to hope for more) but also an artistic success. It seems to me, despite its many strengths, that it is not. That partly may be because it is a little hard to see just what those seeds are. The book is well written, lucid, forward-moving, vivid. It is suspenseful, with a story intriguingly beginning with a hostage-taking at a big Heathrow hotel, curiously covered up by our Olympian masters, and going on to account for that situation in a tale of plot and counterplot

tough forged. Taut, exciting, human, yet either too ambitious and some profit.

Man of Law, by John Wainwright (Macmillan, £5.95). A right puzzler (I defy you,), recounting a murder, trial and lifetime rivalry between QC and psychiatric expert. All alive of the point.

Wilderness, by Robert Parker (Deutsch, £5.95). Guy Weisse assaulted an aimless drifter, this time to be the victim. Action rather rigged to thumb up moral, but admirably sharp.

Dealer's War, by Steve Wilcox (Macmillan, £5.95). Hippie drifter comes against Mafia. Great as California's NorCal farm. Takes you slap-bang into that hairy, crazy, dangerous world.

Raven and the Paperchangers, by Donald Mackenzie (Macmillan, £5.95). Paul and Switzerland. Ex-Yard man tangles with

balance-sheets. The first collection of poems attributed to him came out within months of his death, three hundred years ago this year. It was pirated, and nearly half of its contents were actually by other poets—Edmund Astley, Aphra Behn, Charles Buckhurst (Earl of Dorset), George Etherege, Charles Sedley and others.

Similar rip-offs followed, and the republication by The Red Press of Ronald Duncan's selection, first brought out in 1948 and completely unrevised, belongs to this tradition. It contains no new material—less of all, any acknowledgement that it has been outdated. Duncan's pretensions and splash introduction tell us for example (and his publisher's advertisements imply) that the poems are out of print. This was true in 1948 but is far from being so now. In order of appearance since then, and still available in paperback, and all either cheaper than, or the same price as the Duncan edition, there are *Vivian de Soia Pinto's Musée Library*

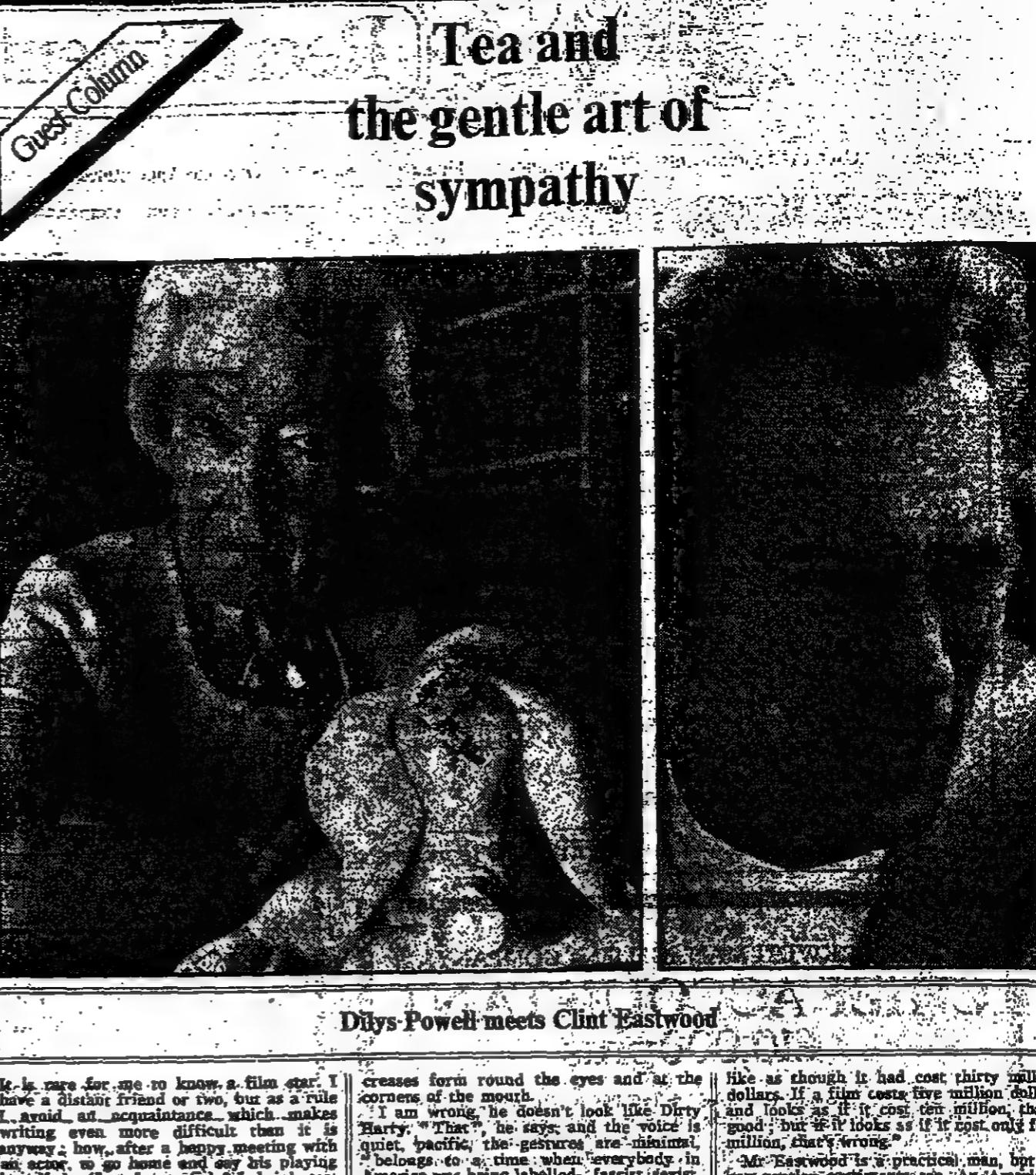
edition, £2.75—a very useful text though missing two poems, one of which Duncan prints; David M. Viets' edition of the *Complete Poems* (Yale, £3.95), a vigorous scholarly edition based on the most substantial research yet done on the texts; and John Addard's *The Debt to Pleasure* (Carcanet, £1.95), an attractive, full and for the general reader adequately reliable selection from all Rochester's writings. And if, like Duncan, you are really more interested in "Rochester" than in the works of Rochester, you can get second-hand a cheap facsimile reprint of the 1850 *Poems on Several Occasions*, published by the Solar Press. Many of the poems included in it—and in Duncan's selection—as "Rochester" are now available in separate scholarly editions, particularly Etherege and Buckhurst.

Of Duncan's book the best that can be said is that a fair number of Rochester's best poems are in it, even though the last stanzas of "Love a woman?" You're an ass." Vulcan, contrive me such a

cup" and "Fair Chloë in a pigsty bay" are missing. But most readers will not know whether these are among the genuine poems or not without consulting other books. Of the sixty or so poems included in fact, twenty-five are almost certainly not Rochester's, and the authors of many of them are known: four by Edward Radcliffe, for example, twin by Thomas D'Urfe, Sir Carr Scroop, Charles Blount, John Sheffield (Earl of Mudsgrave), and Rochester's wife Elizabeth Ronal Duncan tells us that Rochester "is a poet in his own right". This is quite true. What this selection unwittingly demonstrates is that a fair number of his contemporaries were poets in their own right, too.

Jeremy Tregillion

The tercentenary of the death of John Wilton, Earl of Rochester will be marked by a symposium at Wadham College on September 22-23. Bookings to the Steward, Wadham College, Tel. 0865-42554.



Tea and the gentle art of sympathy

Dily Powell meets Clint Eastwood

It is rare for me to know a film star. I

I have a distant friend of two, but as a rule I avoid acquaintances... which makes writing even more difficult than it is anyway, how, after a happy meeting with a star, to go back to work? His playing is quiet, pacific, the gestures are minimal, belongs to a time when everybody in America was being labelled—fascist, sexist, liberal".

"After *Dirty Harry* I was labelled fascistic. But we were simply making a detective story. It was a period of sympathy for the accused. The man in the film just sympathised with the victim, that's all." And he turned his tall head and his blue measuring eyes to look at me. "Are you sure you won't have some questions?"

"In my life too: a friend arranged a meeting with somebody who says he wants to meet you. The encounter begins with a display of vivacity: you even feel you are doing well. Not for long. I knew nothing more lowering to the self-esteem than the disappointment which freezes the face of a friend's friend.

Clint Eastwood has very good manners. He doesn't look disappointed.

It was at his invitation that I went the other day to the Deauville Film Festival, an agreeable and hospitable occasion devoted exclusively to the American cinema. A distinguished concourse of high-level American executives was there. Stars were there: Danny Kaye, James Mason, the director Elia Kazan. In the afternoon you could see them in the hotel garden giving interviews for French television. Sometimes they looked like strangers. One of the encouraging things about Clint Eastwood is that he looks like a man who doesn't make love to his prison, or the screen. Only once.

Even sitting in his hotel room he seems tall, shirt-sleeved, sunburned, smiling from a human, the hair a bit long at the back, curling round his lean face with its high cheekbones. "Well, you have some tea or something?" he asks. Small friendly

creases form round the eyes and at the corners of the mouth.

"I am wrong," he doesn't look like Dirty Harry. "That," he says, and the voice is quiet, pacific, the gestures are minimal, belongs to a time when everybody in America was being labelled—fascist, sexist, liberal".

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like as though it had cost thirty million dollars. If a film costs five million dollars and looks as if it cost ten million, the good, but if it looks as if it cost only fifteen, that's wrong.

Mr Eastwood is a practical man, but far gentler sentiments too. An American society for the protection of animals active on the set. "They don't need to shoot in my films, though you can't agree with films made, say, in Spain."

"His children have been brought up with respect for all living things. I pick up helpless creatures from the sea instead of stamping on it. Next time I'll stamp on it, but I'll do it in a vacuum than neighbourhood. I must try the animal them it has more possibilities than the weight of traffic or noise. Seen Alvin and the Chipmunks at any rate, warmed to him. Meantime, I'm the true heir to the screen. Only once."

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and really I believe him.

John Wayne thought Eastwood, I naturalised him in the true heir to the screen. You can see in him the true heir to the screen, the romantic figures of the great cinema of the past. Sometimes he makes bold effort to break into fresh fields: *Requiem*, *Seven*, the open-ended *Escape from Alcatraz*, once or twice in his press film.

There is a passage in which to get employee out of Double Bronco Billy must be budged by a sheriff. It had been ranking in all-out commercial f

Billy would have been promised a blushing bride another time. But Eastwood is moving, for the moment, towards sexier and less conventional cinema, dedicated to his job, but not to publicity. It gives him "No, I don't care being a star. I like the work. But I've got my privacy".

And really I believe him.

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Fair game

The Times Cook



85 g (3 oz) chilled butter

1 teaspoon finely ground horseradish

2 egg yolks

3 tablespoons iced water

APART FROM MORE POWER AND LESS CONSUMPTION, IT'S EXACTLY THE SAME MERCEDES.



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Boosting the power and economy of the existing 2.3 litre 4-cylinder engine would have been breaking this golden rule.

New stresses would have been introduced and these would have adversely affected its reliability.

The demands and technology of the 1980's produced the only answer: a completely new engine with a completely new gearbox to match the efficiency of the new power plant.

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But then, 'easy' is not a word you'll find in the vocabulary of a Mercedes-Benz engineer.



MERCEDES-BENZ ENGINEERED LIKE NO OTHER CAR IN THE WORLD.



The unfairness inherent in police interrogation

Last year, for the first time in England, a police force allowed an outside observer to be present at interrogations of suspects. The report describing what really goes on during police questioning has been an important influence on the decision of the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure to recommend a thorough overhaul of the law and practice of police interrogations, including the abolition of the Judges' Rules.

On the surface there is an immediate objection to be made to the study: would not the presence of the observer distort the conduct of the interrogation? Would not the police behave with more restraint than they might otherwise in the knowledge that an outsider was reporting on them?

The way around that was to integrate the observer (Mr Barrie Irving, an experienced psychologist from the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations) into the force as far as possible. It seems to have worked. He spent six months virtually as part of the Brighton force, with personal and administrative access to everything that was going on, mixing with the police, adopting their manner, slang and even, as necessary attitudes.

The result was that, to a large extent, he was treated as an insider. Indeed, those who did not know about the project assumed he was part of the police.

The sample was small—he was present at 76 interviews—and, of course, related to only one police station, but the findings confirm a large body of psychological research from other countries.

Perhaps the most striking conclusion reached by the study is that the legal concepts of "voluntary" and "involuntary" confessions are virtually meaningless. The law of evidence, however, is based largely on the distinction between the two; broadly, a voluntary confession to having committed the offence is admissible in evidence at the trial, while one made involuntarily is not.

The Judges' Rules, the guidelines which now govern police interrogation, define a voluntary confession as one which "has not been obtained . . . by fear of prejudice or hope of advantage, exercised or held out by a person in authority, or by oppression."

Most confessions by suspects observed by Mr Irving were obtained without much diffi-

culty and in a relatively short time. In no case did the police use or threaten violence or indulge in any malpractice.

Their ordinary, legitimate tactics of questioning were quite enough to draw out the necessary admissions.

The study found that nearly half the subjects observed were in an abhorrent state just before being interviewed—the abhorrence being due to intoxication, mental handicap, personality problems or from the character of custodial interrogation itself.

The state of the suspect would probably not have excluded their confessions as evidence at the trial, and there is no suggestion of police impropriety, but the implication is that using the notion of "voluntariness" in such cases is misplaced.

In addition, Mr Irving suggests that "everything which happens to a suspect from the moment he enters the cell block reinforces the authority of the police." That, together with the effect of suspense of the familiarity of being in a cell block (assuming the suspect is a first-timer), the experience of being confined and isolated, and the perceived (though usually not justified) threat of harm, also place the suspect in a weakened state of mind when he comes to be questioned.

All those factors—which relate to the state of the suspect before questioning—enhanced by the use by the police of intelligent "persuasive tools or techniques," make the obtaining of confessions a relatively simple matter.

The report's conclusion is that any assessment of voluntariness or oppression made post hoc, at the trial, is likely to fail. "Perhaps the whole fault lies with the initial attempt to control interviewing with legal rules covering objective conditions. Suspects vary so much in their mental state prior to and during interviewing that even if they were subjected to standard treatment, the effects would still vary significantly. The present rules do not produce standard treatment, which exacerbates the situation."

Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure. Police Interrogation: Research Studies No 1 and No 2. Stationery Office, £5.70.

Marcel Berlin
Legal Correspondent

To people beyond Australia it must be hard to understand why Aboriginal Australians suddenly appeared in Geneva on September 4 to present their grievances to the sub-commission of the United Nations which deals with the prevention of discrimination and the protection of minorities.

Its parent body is the UN Commission on Human Rights and Mr Jim Hagen, Chairman of the National Aboriginal Conference (NAC) and leader of the delegation, said on his return to Sydney: "We are on the international scene now and I don't think we could retreat." This week the NAC decided that it would speak in February to the UN Commission itself.

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"...when a group of men is imminently threatened, and fear is the prevailing emotion, the leader is able to quell his own terror to tolerable limits in order to act to remedy the crisis. He makes a decision and calls upon those with him to give it effect. They do so not because they are afraid of punishment if they disobey but because each of those addressed respects intellectually or instinctively the judgement of the man giving instructions and is confident that he has the moral and physical strength to carry forward the undertaking with a reasonable chance of success."

General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley KCS, DSO, MBE, MC

It takes more than a pip on your shoulder to be a leader of men.

In many ways, being an Army Officer is no different from being an executive in commerce or industry. Your rank won't automatically bring you respect and loyalty. You have to earn it.

In the Army, this means making an intelligent diagnosis when a tank packs up.

Getting your men back to base during a NATO exercise when they are flagging from the heat or have lost their way in a blizzard.

And ultimately, as General Farrar-Hockley makes clear, soldiers will look to you for inspiration in the confusion and horror of battle.

Of course, we don't expect you to display all these skills the day you leave school or university.

Officer training at Sandhurst comes first.

And even when you take com-

mand of a platoon, you will have an experienced Sergeant to lean on, giving you ample time to ease yourself into the job.

At this stage, all we ask is that you should be eager to accept responsibility for the physical, mental and emotional well-being of a group of soldiers.

But before you rush off a letter, please read the quotation again.

Then write to Major John Floyd, Army Officer Entry (Dept. D81), Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London W1X 6AA.

Tell him your date of birth (you must be between 17½ and 26) and your educational qualifications, and he will send you a booklet called "Army Officer. What the job is like and how you can apply for it."

Army Officer

Despite ample proof, many Australians remain unconvinced about Aboriginal grievances

Racial discrimination, Australian style



An Aborigine father and daughter, second-class citizens in their own country.

Aboriginal landowners have the legal power to keep strangers off their land, and to negotiate the terms on which strangers may use their land, if they so decide. They do not own the minerals under their land, but they benefit financially from any exploitation.

If they do not want their land to be mined, it may only be mined if the Australian parliament declares that it must be "in the nation's interest". Negotiations with miners are conducted without government interference but if the parties cannot reach agreement they have to accept the terms of an arbitrator appointed by the government.

Uranium mining was forced upon Aborigines in the national interest. Otherwise their powers as property owners are considerable. On their own land the protection of their sacred sites is their own responsibility. They have made voluntary agreements for the use of their land by companies which mine, fish, run cattle, cut timber and shoot buffalo. They employ lawyers for advice.

The Australian government has been able to give them encouraging powers and responsibilities because its powers as property owners are considerable. On their own land the protection of their sacred sites is their own responsibility. They have made voluntary agreements for the use of their land by companies which mine, fish, run cattle, cut timber and shoot buffalo. They employ lawyers for advice.

This means that the protection and power which come to all people from private property are denied to Aborigines in Queensland and Western Australia. Hence the drilling for oil at Noonkanbah against the wishes of the people.

Much is made of the agreements made with mining companies elsewhere but these agreements represent no more than a recognition by the Aborigines involved that they might as well settle for what they can get because they cannot stop the mining. As for the terms, these are just an acknowledgement by Aborigines of the reality.

However the NAC is in

strong opposition to such agreements. The Australian Government and the Labour opposition, because it is elected and officially recognized, in April last year called for a treaty to be nego-

tiated between Aboriginal representatives and the Australian Government. The terms would include freehold land rights in all states and federal authority everywhere.

Mr Fraser's government and the opposition have both accepted the principle of a treaty. Meanwhile, Australia remains the only former British colony not to recognize native title to land, although a House of Commons select committee acknowledged in 1837 that Aborigines had "an incontestable right to their own soil, a plain and sacred right, however, which seems not to have been understood".

It is still not understood, even by the High Court, which dismissed an Aboriginal test case in April last year.

This rejection excluded for Aborigines the possibility of support from the law for their claim to ownership of land. In the United States Supreme Court to Indians who did have title. So now the Aborigines are going overseas and working within Australia, which they prefer for political progress through a treaty. They are strongly supported by a growing number of other Australians gathering around a small committee chaired by Dr E.C. Coombes, former Governor of the Reserve Bank.

Stewart Harris

The author, an editorial writer on The Canberra Times now Canberra correspondent for The Times from 1957 to 1973. He is a member of the Aboriginal Affairs Committee and his brother is a bookie. It's Coming Up—describing Aboriginal history and culture and today's situation. It is distributed by Robertson (Sydney and London). It was originally produced from the Aboriginal Treaty Committee, PO Box 1201, Canberra 2601, Australia.

A toast to the gallant last gentleman

Bernard Levin

Those who believe that there is no difference between any two human beings that cannot be explained in terms of society will

inevitably tend to believe that there is no difference between men and women other than a physical one.

Those who believe that men and women are equal, but that they are identical,

will be sure to differ: but there is something more important to be said. At the heart of the modern totalitarianism, let us say, is the grotesque cult generally called Trotskyite—it is a hunger, largely but not entirely unconscious, to get rid of, by submerging in the mass, the individual human personality, which they cannot forgive for reminding them that their political philosophy, dependent as it is on the pathetic belief that human beings can be fully predicted and scientifically controlled, is nonsense. It was surely an accident that the tubercular man of this movement was Mao Tse-tung, who really did seem to be the embodiment of the revolution, and who achieved the reduction to complete uniformity of about seven hundred million people that always was untrue of course, and some of us not need the events in China which have followed the death of Mao to tell us so, but for a time it looked plausible to those who tended to believe it.

Not, surely, is it an accident that the more extreme militants of the women's movement should be renamed. Persecution is the ones who believe, or at any rate behave as though they believe, that a woman is only a woman, but a good cigar is a smoke.

What our gallant friend has done is to expose another rather stable. We shall in the end, I hope, learn to crack our teeth. I cannot, of course, approve of the intention in the second part of the statement, still less of its carrying out. But the implication of the first half seems to me something to cherish and applaud, and the speaker, though he may be a publican, is in my eyes at least no sinner.

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Showing the flag for Scotland

How Scotland should sell itself abroad has become a question of strong disagreement between MPs on the Select Committee on Scottish Affairs and the people who do the selling, the Scottish Development Agency.

The majority on the committee, Tories with a strong sense of the United Kingdom, feel the SDA should not go its own way and develop independent contacts overseas that might conceivably attract industry to Scotland.

If it does it will have demonstrated that a vigorous Scottish approach works, although the mission can expect to have to do some hard talking to explain why, even under threat of closure, the 500 workers at the Ayesturts Marine Constructors refused to work for an American-owned consortium when local unemployment already runs at 17 per cent and the future for the Ayrshire yard looked bleak.

Such promotion, they argue, is best left to the Invest in Britain Bureau and consultancies from whose efforts Scotland will receive its fair share.

By accident the agency has the chance to prove that an individual approach gets results which is think have been significantly absent from similar stories.

On October 5 a Sell Scotland Campaign mission organized by the SDA, the Scottish Development and Industry, the Scottish Tourist Board, the British Tourist Authority and British Caledonian Airways leaves for America to spread the Scottish message among American businessmen. It will visit Houston, Dallas, Atlanta, and St Louis.

Tell him your date of birth (you must be between 17½ and 26) and your educational qualifications, and he will send you a booklet called "Army Officer. What the job is like and how you can apply for it."

SCOTTISH DIARY

SDA to maintain an independent presence through its offices in New York, San Francisco and Brussels. Ironically, he will be speaking at an SDA seminar on electronics in Boston on October 4 just before the Sell Scotland brigade arrives.

The agency is confident it will attract its target of 10 American companies that would provide 1,000 jobs.

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Predators all

Peter Ellis, chief slink in Scotland for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, has had a busy year. The ravens he is studying, for example, have been shot, beaten, and then sold to dealers.

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Style



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WHO GAVE THE STEALTH LEAK?

President Carter has been accused of playing politics with America's defence secrets. Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, who as Chief of Naval Operations after his retirement six years ago, has told a subcommittee of the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee that was on Mr Carter's instructions that information was leaked to the press about what had become known as "the stealth bomber" — an aircraft most invisible to radar. After information was published, Secretary of Defence Mr Arnold Brown last month briefly confirmed the existence of the bomber.

This potentially damaging accusation raises three questions. The first is quite simply whether it is to be believed. Admiral Zumwalt is not only a retired naval officer of distinction; he is also a declared supporter of Mr Reagan and a member of an organization that is raising money for the Republican candidate. That has naturally provoked the charge that he too is playing politics, but that suspicion cannot dispel Zumwalt's accusation more than can a little House denial, which most people would expect at this stage. He has gone so far as to name the official who, he says, is responsible for the leak. It is known that the Carter team have been concerned to

dramatize for political purposes the administration's commitment to a strong defence policy.

If Admiral Zumwalt's accusation can be proved to be factually incorrect, that will be the end of the matter. If, however, it becomes accepted that the President was responsible for the leak, then a second question arises: has he thereby jeopardized American national security? There is a natural presumption that if it is safe to publicize the existence of a new item of military equipment then the announcement should be made openly—and an announcement which cannot be made openly is not safe. Not in this instance is Admiral Zumwalt the only military figure to have criticized the subsequent public confirmation of the leak. General Richard Ellin, the commander of the Strategic Air Command, has been outspoken in his condemnation.

There is no question, however, of any technological information having been disclosed. The Soviet Union has not been told how it was possible to construct a bomber that is virtually invisible to radar. Nor is it yet clear that the United States has been engaged on such a project for some time. Mr Carter remarked last week: "when I became President in January of 1977, the existence of the Stealth programme then was not even classified." Public testimony

had been given on it and a contract to develop a Stealth device was done with an open and published contract.

The programme was subsequently classified in the spring of 1977, but that could obviously not prevent a considerable number of people knowing of its existence. What has now been disclosed is that the programme appears to have been successful.

It is still not altogether clear how much this will help the Soviet Union, but it does mean that they have been given the warning some years in advance of the new aircraft coming into operation of their need to modify their air defences to take account of it. The expert military evidence that emerges on this point over the next few days will clearly be of the greatest importance.

Only if the American public become persuaded that Mr Carter did authorize the leak, and that in doing so he took a risk with national security, will this episode become a major issue in the presidential campaign. But if they do become convinced on both these scores he is bound to suffer severely. There is no responsibility more central to the President's task than to protect the national security. He is Commander-in-Chief as well as President. So the outcome of the election could be critically affected by any new facts on this issue that are to be disclosed.

HE THREAT OF A KOREAN MARTYRDOM

trial of Mr Kim Dae-Jung, South Korean opposition leader, and the death sentence which has now been passed on him, have appalled all those who hoped that South Korea might be moving towards a more democratic system. Mr Kim, who in the 1971 presidential election and received 45 per cent of the vote, has been a symbol of growing pressure for more ways, both under former President Park Chung Hee and his assassin, last October. Yet President Chun Doo-han has been apparently sworn to eliminate him from the country's political life, with any other politicians might threaten the military's control. Since the riots which broke out in Kwangju, in May, a thousand people have been detained, many of them political dissidents, and those of government employees have been purged. Now Mr Kim, used to inciting the riots, has been sentenced to death on

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DENMARK

Defence is not a burning issue

continued from previous page

and Denmark. Nato envisages Denmark's role in a war with the Warsaw Pact countries as a delaying element, holding the aggressor back by using ultra-modern technology for the navy and the air force, reducing the army, and in fact, concentrating Danish defence on Jutland.

Nato Command in Denmark calculates that the Warsaw Pact conventional onslaught on Western Europe would be preceded by a rapid air-sea and land attack on Jutland, the Danish islands, and the Baltic strait, to secure an exit for their ships to the North Atlantic. Denmark's task would thus be to hold the Baltic strait as well as assisting other Nato forces in maintaining the strategically vital Greenland-Iceland-Scotland line.

Both Greenland and the Faroe Islands, which enjoy a large measure of home rule under the Danish crown, are important Nato outposts. The present uneasy world situation has led to talks within Denmark and between Norway, Denmark and the United States on the extension of the already impressive network of bases, munitions dumps and depots in the two Scandinavian Nato states and an intensification of pre-stocking activity.

Suspicion within the alliance of Denmarkization are in no way based on any Danish intention to withdraw from Nato, and return to neutrality. This was the cornerstone of Danish foreign policy — it breached only on four occasions from 1720 until joining Nato in 1949. The last opinion poll revealed that 57 per cent of Danes supported continued Danish membership of Nato.

The Danish Defence Force is compact. The total wartime strength of the three services and the Home Guard amounts to about 200,000. The field army has five brigades (and there is a compulsory nine-month National Service). The Royal Danish Navy comprises 52 fighting vessels, including five frigates and corvettes, 18 MTBs, six submarines and a number of minelayers. The Danish Royal Air Force has a total flight strength of 116 combat aircraft divided into six squadrons. As part of the so-called "arms deal" with West Germany, the Royal Danish Air Force took delivery in January of the first of 58 F-16 fighter-bombers to be delivered over the next three years.

While the army is being equipped with West German

Christopher Follett

Leopard tanks, the navy has been modernised with new Willemoes class torpedo boats, capable of carrying Harpoon missiles. Basically the Danish Government wants to reduce military manpower through buying ultra-modern technology for the navy and the air force, reducing the army, and in fact, concentrating Danish defence on Jutland.

According to General K. Jorgensen, the Chief of Defence, the so-called zero-growth proposal Mr Sogaard is calling for, would effectively cut Danish defence capacity by one third, reducing manpower by 5,000 men and leaving the eastern Island of Zealand, on which Copenhagen is located, almost defenceless. The general also maintains that even if Denmark concurs with Nato demands for a 3 per cent rise in military expenditure, there would be a de facto 10 per cent reduction in Danish defence capability.

Recent letters from Mr Harold Brown, the US Defense Secretary, to Mr Sogaard expressed "grave concern" at the possibility of non-compliance with the 3 per cent increase in military expenditure agreed by Nato, as did a dramatic press statement issued by the United States embassy in Copenhagen at the beginning of this month.

Mr Sogaard and the Social Democratic Government are likely to have great difficulty holding military expenditure at its present level, however, the leaders of the centre and right parties, whose support the Government will need to get the new defence Bill through Parliament, have so far unanimously insisted on at least a 3 per cent rise, the Conservatives on 5 per cent. Nor is there a majority in Parliament for a zero-rating.

Soviet naval facilities in, and activities out of, Leningrad and Murmansk have been vastly improved and have grown in importance since the Second World War, putting the once unexposed waters around Scandinavia, again in the front line of Western defences. These seas are again a potential theatre of war. Could the idealistic days of traditional pacifist neutrality, Danish defence thinking, be over? Yes, and the question of re-concentrating, being the Danish Government's general order of the day. The new defence Bill will none the less be this autumn's political area of dispute in Denmark.

Christopher Follett

The Government has just introduced a new general system of social welfare to regulate social benefits according to income. The system is a measurement of the economic ability of a family or person and this includes positive capital. The measurement of economic help in case of loss of income is in principle the same.

The Ministry of Social Affairs will spend 25 kroner to produce a booklet which explains what the security system is inadequate.

An example of the high on the expectations of the gay 1960s. The social security costs a lot of money.

Putting into effect of the welfare costs a lot of money.

and so does the public administration. In a country

high income, for example with just over five million citizens from the first hour whether Denmark with its increasing investment in present economic policy, work performance, and other countries it is calculated to produce from this it is necessary to get itself out of reduce a number of experts directly in the public sector.

"According to one of the weeks from the moment they receive social benefits.

"The qualification problem is the principal advertising medium, one fourth of the jobs offered are in the public sector. The situation is that a factory needs certain skilled labour.

"It is wrong to transfer substantial resources to the local newspapers, so that in the country as a whole, 40 per cent of industry could be more careful in planning what sort of labour it important sources of foreign exchange revenue.

"Unemployment is now easy to solve the unemployed about 6 per cent. Mr Svend Aakre, the Minister of Labour, says: "In Denmark a welfare system is expensive and the question is as well as the industries, to

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Education clue to success

The advanced educational system and better understanding of new technology and its applications are two reasons put forward by Mr Christian R. Rovsing for some of Denmark's successes in manufacturing and industry.

The nature of the computerized world was changing so quickly, he said, that what was new a year ago was old today.

Some 40 per cent of energy resources in Denmark are used in building buildings, Mr Rovsing says. This figure could be reduced by 25 per cent in about five years when theory and technique are available.

The future looks good,

as the requirements of communications are limitless. A Danish family spends about 3,000 kroner a year on entertainment-television, radio, cassettes and so on. I think

that within 10 years a family on holiday at Majorca will be able to watch the Danish television news, it wants to.

Another firm looking to the future is Novo Industry, one of the world's largest producers of enzymes. The use of enzymes has increased since 1965, mainly because of their increasing use in production of detergents. Within the search industry their use has also proved valuable.

With the constant rise in

the price of oil, mankind is trying to develop new resources of energy, prefer-

ably locally produced and replaceable. One country trying to replace oil is Brazil, and in this it has been helped by Novo Industry.

Brazil is rich in the manioc plant, which contains a lot of starch. This can be broken down into sugar with the help of enzymes. The sugar is again transformed into alcohol and mixed with petrol, thus cutting imports of oil.

In the United States in 1979 there were some 700 to 800 petrol stations selling a mixture of alcohol and petrol; today about 5,000 stations are selling this blending, "gasohol".

In America the starch in corn is used to produce alcohol. Some people think it is unethical to use food to produce energy, but it has been proved that pigs fed on corn drained of starch and mixed with hay gain in weight.

Mr Hans Christian Barfoed of Novo, who has 24 years' experience in enzyme and ferment research, says of the future: "The use of enzymes in the food industry has been rapid and its effects far-reaching. The future holds even greater potential."

"One single group of enzymes (there are some 2,000 known ones) could open up a vast new range for food and feedstock production. Cellulose forms some 40 per cent of all plant tissue. As a food it is indigestible, except to ruminants and a few other plane-eating animals. As a fuel it has limited application. Nor can it be fermented by yeast except after prolonged boiling in strong acid. With enzymes its complex polysaccharide molecules could be reduced to simple sugars more efficiently."

"Much of the 22,000 million tons of plant waste generated each year could be converted into raw materials for food and feedstock fermentation."

"Look, for instance, at the production of soy beans — the largest source of protein in the world. Imagine what it would mean to the world's households if soy beans became ordinary food. When using soy beans for animal fodder three-quarters of the protein is wasted. It is a question of change in the attitude of the consumers. If we succeed in that, a very large protein resource could be used."

Novo is also famous for its production of insulin. A third firm involved in highly advanced scientific research is Odico, which is the world's largest producer of hearing aids, with a yearly output of 350,000 units, besides accessories. Of this 97 per cent is exported to some 90 countries and in 12 of these Odico has its own divisions.

Odico is also concerned about human energy and the capacity to produce. Mr Bent Simonsen, Odico's director, says that to work and produce it is essential to be able to hear properly but it has been estimated that some 4 to 5 per cent of the world's population suffers from reduced hearing one way or another. New investigations indicate that many more suffer from diminished hearing but far too many of them are not being helped. Although reduced hearing can be helped very many people are reluctant to seek assistance, even in this country.

"The Government even pays for transport to the hearing aid test stations, but somehow an old prejudice prevents people from taking advantage of this."

"It is estimated that about 5 per cent of the Danish population needs a hearing aid but that only 3 per cent actually has one. The loss of normal hearing creates a lot of problems. The person often becomes irritable, suspicious and gets psychological problems. All this could be prevented if he or she could hear properly. It often results in tragedy such as the loss of a job, or problems in the family, and the sufferer often ends up becoming introspective."

"Odico produces 60 to 70 different kinds of hearing aids and the models are improved by research at the company's research centre near Elsinore which is visited by hundreds of researchers every year from all over the world."

Sporekassen SDS is a fast growing bank. Last year for instance, our balance sheet was 19 per cent over 1978. With our "foreign affairs"

picking up too, we are moving upwards in the international money world."

But rapid growth has its price.

Annelise Hopson looks at some social welfare and housing problems and examines the surprisingly buoyant manufacturing industries

Income as gauge of social benefits

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Energy

Conservation gets its chance with win by anti-nuclear lobby

Danish Government's Parliament for the introduction of atomic energy in January - initially to postpone introducing nuclear power seem to have won the day. Originally, it had been intended to hold a national referendum on the issue in 1981. Denmark for this century, caused by Sweden did this failure to find a satisfactory solution to radioactive waste disposal. Doubts about the safety of nuclear power stations were further reinforced by the Hanford disaster in the United States, and the general unease of Copenhageners no natural resources own. Denmark relies who can see just 20 kilo- for almost 80 per cent. Nuclear power twin towns of the two all over Europe. The Swedish reactors at Barsebäck plans with 1991 the bick which, ironically, the feasible date for its export power across the nation. With public sound to the majority of the and the ruling Social Danish island of Zealand. rare seriously split on In a small, densely populated country like Denmark in the present there are few. If any, sites

sufficiently far from large deficit at about 21,000m cubic metres where kroner. But the policy of have subsequently risen mid-1980s. The Dan field, now in the only oil field, now in operation, produced last year 423,000 tonnes of oil. By the end of the century, Denmark expects to be importing 25 million tonnes of oil, mainly from South Africa (not without political controversy), which supplied 70 per cent of total energy consumption, or 8 million tonnes a year less than before the first oil crisis in 1973.

So for the time being, Denmark is trying to survive without its own nuclear energy. But how brave, or foolhardy, is it being? It is calculated that nuclear power could have saved Denmark at least 500m kroner last year.

The bill for imported oil

last year was about the same as its balance of payments deficit, 15,600m kroner. This year's oil bill will probably again exceed 15,000m kroner. At present the figure is about 60 per cent

Coal imports to Denmark have gone up to 2,200,000 tonnes last year. By the end of the century, Denmark expects to be importing 25 million tonnes of coal, mainly from South Africa (not without political

controversy), which supplied 33 per cent of total coal imports last year, and will account for 42 per cent next year, and Poland, now supplying 45 per cent.

Among other nations,

China, Venezuela, Australia and (after 1985) Colombia,

are, or will also be, major coal suppliers to Denmark's partly nationalized, partly private electricity boards.

After a slow start, Denmark is expected to begin to obtain bigger returns from its offshore North Sea fields, bringing total Danish production up to 2,500,000 tonnes a year, a sixth of present oil imports.

According to Degeler & MacNaughton, the Dallas, Texas, firm of geological consultants commissioned by the Danish state to plot the North Sea reserves, the five fields discovered so far in the Danish sector of the North Sea could, when all in operation, yield a total of at least five million tonnes a year over the next 25 years, satisfying up to one third to one half of the country's oil needs. The discovery this summer of a new potentially major source of oil, in the Danish Lulu structure, which is on the fringe of the rich Norwegian Ekofisk field, has given rise to further optimism.

Danish North Sea gas fields go into production in

1984 and experts estimate that there are 230,000 million cu metres of gas, five times original estimates. This is enough to satisfy 10 per cent of Denmark's total energy needs and 50 per cent of domestic energy requirements for 20 years at least.

From October 1982, Denmark will have access to Ruhr gas through its pipeline link-up with West Germany. In addition, an agreement was signed earlier this year with Sweden to provide North Sea gas by pipeline to southern Sweden. Also work is going on to construct a gas pipeline from the Danish North Sea fields over Jutland and the islands of Funen and Zealand to south Sweden. This project is scheduled for completion by 1985.

With the projected link-up with Sweden and the Danish link with West Germany, Denmark hopes to persuade Norway to join the network but a final decision is not expected from Norway until next spring.

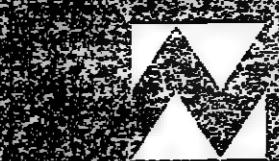
Uniquely in North Sea off-

shore prospecting by West European states, it is one private Danish shipping, trading and industrial con-

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Agriculture

Efficient sector but deep in crisis



Pigs outnumber people by almost two to one in Denmark. More than nine million Danish pigs produced nearly one million tonnes of pork and bacon in 1979, with live pigs, bacon and pork representing nearly 20 per cent of Danish agricultural exports.

Bacon and pork exports, which to the United Kingdom alone, constituted about 80 per cent of this total, made up almost 8 per cent of total Danish exports, earning more than £800 million kroner last year.

In 1979, total Danish agricultural exports were nearly 18,000 kroner, or approximately 30 per cent of total Danish exports of all goods. This is an impressive record as the Danish farming community represents only 7 per cent of the total population.

Almost two thirds of Denmark's total agricultural production is exported, with more than 80 per cent of exports now going to the EEC. Of this, 32 per cent of Danish agricultural exports go to the United Kingdom, with West Germany in second place and growing rapidly in importance as a market.

Although Danish farm exports to West Germany were half those to Britain in 1976, the gap had narrowed in 1979 to more than 50 per cent of Danish exports to the United Kingdom, making West Germany one of Denmark's fastest growing and most dynamic export markets for farm products.

But Danish agriculture is experiencing its deepest crisis since the Second World War. High wages, interest rates and taxation, coupled with national subsidies in other countries and increasing competition from other EEC countries, have not made agricultural life easy in the past few years. Coupled with these factors, the Danish agricultural population is declining with livestock production constant, while agricultural prices on the domestic market have not kept pace with the rate of increase of living costs.

However, Denmark can still claim to have a more efficient, highly mechanized and computerized agricultural sector, even if its 127,000 farms are still mostly traditionally family-owned and run.

A big factor in the Danish agricultural miracle is LEC

(Landbrugets EDB-Center), the Danish agricultural electronic data processing centre, based in Aarhus, Jutland, Denmark's second city.

Since 1962, when LEC was originally founded by the Federation of Danish Dairy Organizations in conjunction with the Danish Bacon Factories' Export Association (ESS-Foods), other bodies with an interest in applying data processing to agriculture have joined the Federation of Danish Farmers' Union, the Federation of Danish Smallholders' Unions and the Danish Agricultural Council, have joined the collective organization.

Employing some 450 full-time staff, LEC is not profit-making and indirectly owned by every organised farmer in Denmark—nearly all the 120,000 engaged in the agricultural sector. LEC serves the farming community through a network of approximately 100 local advisory centres, spread throughout the country and staffed by more than 2,000 advisers.

More than 600 terminals all over Denmark, are connected to LEC's computers in Aarhus, with 50 per cent or so of the advisory centres having their own terminals. Within the next two years or so this figure is expected to rise to an impressive 70 per cent.

LEC provides an indispensable service to Danish farmers supplying milk recording systems, feed control and planning data for cattle, and dairy cattle breeding and beef cattle pedigree registration programmes. The computer service for dairies covers 84 per cent of all of Denmark's 60,000 dairy herds, providing fat and protein analysis and a quick quality control, as well as invaluable data for the farmer on the productivity of his herd.

In addition, the farmer can subscribe to so-called cattle management reports telling him about such things as calving and the results of insemination programmes. LEC records some 900,000 first-time inseminations for 49,000 farmers every year, about 75 per cent of the potential market, and produces progeny and potency test information, acting as a sort of combined stock control, administrative and breeding research system for the 22 bull stations, as well as the country's breeding societies.

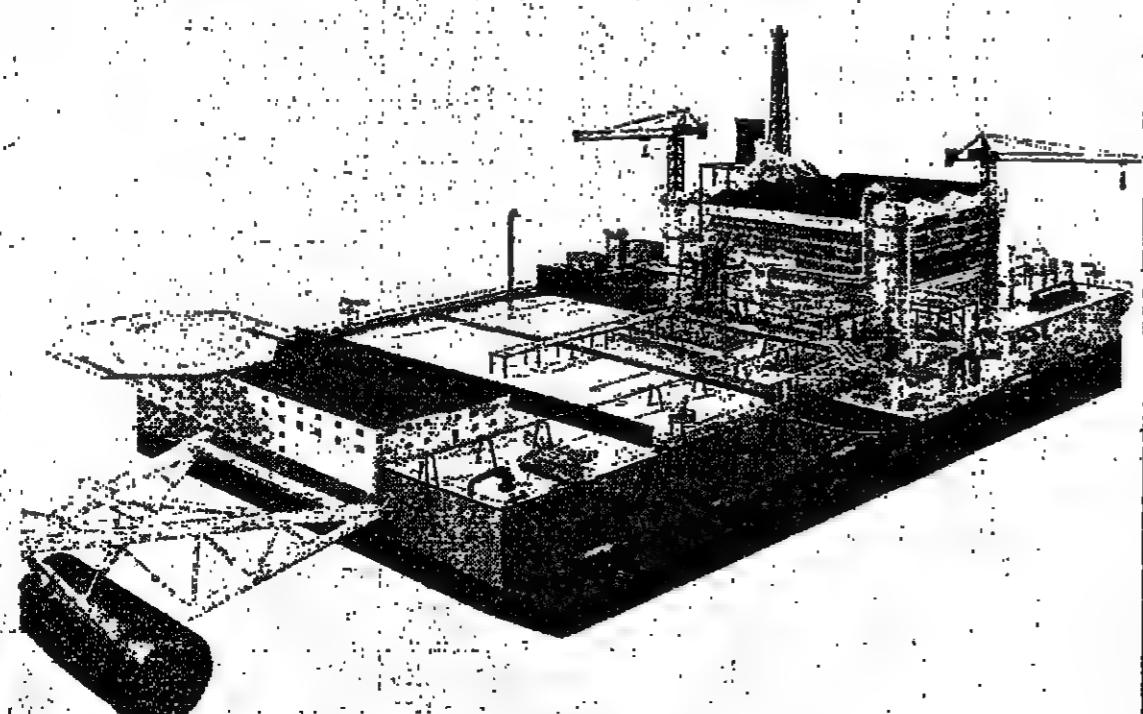
In the vital sector of pig breeding, LEC contributes with progeny tests, cattle evaluations, herd tests and health data. Some 1,500 large-scale pig farmers use the LEC pig production systems, which effectively monitor all aspects of pig farming.

As a further service to farmers, LEC's accounting and budgetary systems handle the accounts and tax details of some 42,000 Danish farmers through 100 of the local advisory centres. To date LEC has installed terminals in only a very few farmhouses.

LEC intends to extend its present network of terminals to cover every advisory centre in the country by 1984. By the end of the decade it hopes to install terminals in thousands of farms throughout Denmark, enabling farmers to record and receive output and input data in situ or at source, relieving highly skilled advisers from the burden of programming large amounts of daily routine data.

According to LEC, terminals on farms would also facilitate daily work plans for feed planning, and control. Another idea is for information eventually to be passed from the farmers' terminals to small computers in the advisory centres for editing, if necessary, and storage before overnight transmission to LEC's computer centre in Aarhus, where processing would take place. The system may one day allow the farmer to relay messages to his local advisory centre.

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THE TIMES THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 18 1980

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Bryant
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jobs lost, page 22

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Scots plant
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PRICE CHANGES

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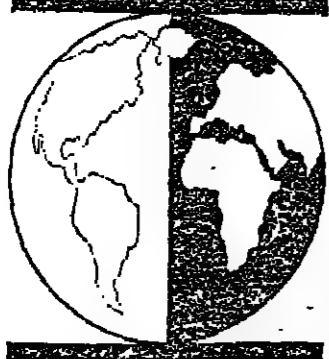
Kirkos 45p to 830p
Pitard Grp 30 to 35p
Bustenburg 35p to 350p
Venterport 57p to 590p
Wimster & Cty 80 to 91p

4p to 31p
10p to 194p
13p to 812p
2p to 37p
21p to 22p

Lamco 15p to 689p
Linton, W. E. 10p to 101p
Pifcon 50p to 32p
Portsmouth News 50p to 85p
Tricentrol 14p to 342p

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Alfa link with Nissan put off again

The Italian Government has postponed for the fifth time in seven months a decision on whether it should authorise a joint new car venture between the state-controlled Alfa Romeo and Japan's Nissan company.

The joint venture, to build 60,000 medium-sized cars a year in southern Italy, was first proposed in March this year.

The cars, with Nissan bodies and Alfa engines, would be 80 per cent Italian and 20 per cent Japanese in value and would be sold half in Italy and half in the rest of Europe.

But the proposal has met opposition from the Cabinet publicly split over the issue. Signor Giovanni d' Micheli, Minister of State Holdings has repeatedly backed the idea and pressed for early government approval of the project.

Russian contract

A group of French companies led by Creusot-Loire, has been awarded a 1.37m franc (£129m) contract to supply the Soviet Union with equipment and machinery to produce alloy steel at the Novolissk site, 250 kilometres south of Moscow.

Danish recovery

Denmark is no longer sliding into the "economic abyss", according to Mr Erik Hoffmeyer, National Bank governor. He said that the country was moving in the right direction even if the pace remained too slow.

Japan narrows deficit

Japan's customs clearance trade deficit narrowed in August to \$783.9m (£329m) from an upwardly revised \$972.58m July deficit, and compared with a \$1.670m deficit a year earlier, the Ministry of Finance said.

French gdp down

French gross domestic product declined 0.3 per cent in the second quarter of 1980 compared with a 0.4 per cent growth in the first quarter, the National Statistics Institute said.

Soviet output up

Russian output grew by 3.7 per cent from January to August 1980 compared with the same period last year. The target this year is a 4.5 per cent rise over 1979.

Lower car exports

Toyota and Nissan expect falling sales and shipments of cars and trucks to the United States in the rest of this year.

Union attitude hardening over pay claim rejection and job losses

Trouble looms in the carpet trade

Leaders of 23,000 carpet industry workers are to meet the British Carpet Manufacturers Association in London today to "reply" to the employers' rejection of a latest pay claim. It seems the unions' attitude is hardening and the general feeling is that traditional moderation has achieved nothing.

The unions, the Northern Carpet Trades Union, the National Union of Dyers, Bleachers and Textile Workers, the General and Municipal Workers Union, the Scottish Carpet Trades Union and the Power Loom Carpet Weavers and Textile Workers Association, are members of the National Affiliation Board of the carpet trade. Last year they accepted a 10 per cent pay increase in recognition of the problems facing the country and the industry.

This year the unions' pay claim is based on the cost of living. Employers maintain the claim works out at 30 per cent, but union negotiators say it is 20 per cent or lower.

Since the rejection of the claim meetings have been held by all the unions who are said to be in a "firm mood". To some

extent a toughening in attitude is not surprising. The unions were told by the Government and the employers that by moderating wage claims and by generally sticking to government guidelines jobs would be preserved.

But in the past year or so the carpet industry workforce has shrunk from 30,000 to about 23,000 and most of the jobs went in the past seven or eight months.

One of the main complaints, on which employers and unions agree, is that nothing has been done to stem the rising flow of imports from the heavily subsidised American manufacturers. The oil base for synthetic fibres costs the United States manufacturers 40 per cent less than their British counterparts and carpets made from synthetic fibres have flooded into Britain at discount prices.

Import restrictions were imposed by the European Community not on carpets but on synthetic carpet fibres as carpets continued to come into Britain. United Kingdom manufacturers who imported synthetic carpet fibres found them in

short supply and, presumably, more expensive than ever.

Such action has destroyed any confidence unions have had in present policies because the end result has been lost jobs.

The employers continue their plea for moderation in wage claims and point out that industrial action hardly makes sense in an industry already heavily subsidised for short-time working by the Government.

The unions admit that industrial action is the last thing they want but point to what they consider to be a militant attitude on the part of the employers.

They say this was illustrated at last year's pay talks when employers said first there was no money for pay increases and then said if there were pay increases they would not be made retrospective if the settlement took a long time.

There is little doubt that the manufacturers are finding the going tough. Substantial losses have been recorded by big and influential companies and these are likely to be highlighted at today's talks.

Ronald Kershaw

Tourism chief calls for special VAT rate

By Derek Harris

The Government should be prepared to bring in lower value-added tax rates for tourism to help counter its problems, including the high value of sterling, Sir Henry Marking, chairman of the British Tourist Authority, said in London yesterday. But he was cautiously optimistic about 1980.

Britain was already a standstill year on tourism last year, with spending per head down so that foreign currency earnings grew less than inflation by only just over 9 per cent. But foreign visitors might reach 13.25 million this year compared with last year's 12.5 million, Sir Henry said. Earnings could then reach £4,000, more than 14 per cent up compared with last year.

The Government could help tourism—and the theatre—to not only by reducing VAT for hire with much continental practice, but by creating tourism development on par with Germany, France, Italy, etc., with industrial building allowances for hotel construction.

London is still top of the world tourist leagues among cities, according to the BTA, although it is believed to have slipped to second place for conferences.

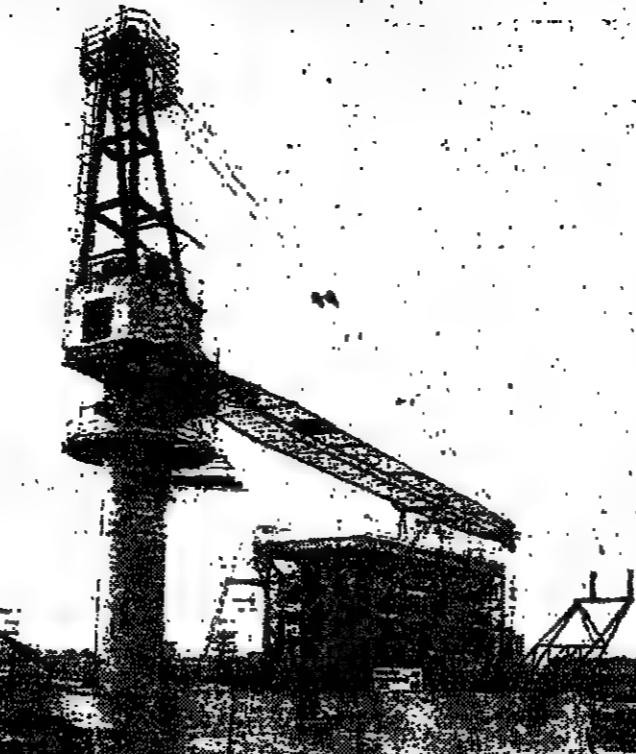
Three industries 'set for 100,000 redundancies'

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

yesterday, blamed the Government's overall mismanagement of the economy, ministers' refusal to assist the three sectors by effective and industrial policies and the inability of the Government and the European Community to administer a "fair trading system".

The TUC says such a system would protect the British market from disruptive imports from both high and low-cost countries. While the EEC should implement anti-dumping policies more effectively, the TUC statement says the United Kingdom is "justified in taking unilateral action if the EEC authorities are unwilling to act quickly".

The statement, published by the TUC textile clothing and footwear industries committee



The first of the 2,000-tonne modules, complete with crane, stands ready at the start of its 180 mile journey to the Fulmar oil field in the North Sea.

2,000-tonne module leaves Tyneside yard for N sea

By John Husley

One of the largest and most complicated operations to load North Sea hardware from works yard to barge began on the River Tyne at 3 am yesterday.

The river was closed to heavy traffic for several hours and three tugs stood by as the first of two 2,000-tonne modules were lashed on almost 700 wheels, on to a floating barge the size of a football pitch.

Tomorrow a second module will be loaded on to the same barge from the West Works yard of William Press Production Systems at Wallsend. The two sets, together worth £12m, are due to be installed in Shell's Fulmar field early next year.

William Press has two yards at Wallsend which employ about 450 men. However, there were plans over the next 12 months to increase the workforce to about 700, Mr David Solley, managing director, said.

In an area of high unemployment (about twice the national average) and poor job prospects, William Press works provide a glimmer of hope.

The company has already started work on two follow-up orders, worth about £25m. Marathon Oil has ordered six modules for the Brunei field, and contracts for two modules for the Marmara field have been placed by BP.

Mr Solley said this should ensure security of employment for about 450 men for three years. The peak workforce should be about 700. In addition, about 400 sub-contractors will be brought on site.

Recruitment is no problem. William Press says well and other work is scarce on Tyneside. The day after Mr Solley was interviewed on television about the new contracts he turned up at work to find a queue of men looking for jobs. When the company advertised recently for labour, about 5,000 applications came in.

Not so long ago, the company was forced to make small groups of men redundant, and introduce work sharing for others.

Although the yards are now working at optimum capacity, maintaining continuity of work load is difficult. Some "slack" time is needed, but the yards have the flexibility to take on "quick turn-around" jobs.

At present, the yards are forced to turn down more lucrative module contracts.

520 more steelmen to lose jobs

By Edward Townsend

Another round of redundancies was announced yesterday by the British Steel Corporation. Two plants in the Midlands will be affected and 520 jobs lost.

At the corporation's works at Ilkeston, Derbyshire, 440 are to lose their jobs. Another 80 jobs are to go at a foundry near Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire. The plants produce iron and concrete pipes and, a spokesman said, they had suffered from a drop in demand from British water authorities, their chief customers.

A month after Bowater UK announced it was to close its newspaper mill at Ellesmere Port at Merseyside, the company is cutting back by 40 jobs at a nearby packaging plant.

About 1,600 people are to be made redundant at the newsprint mill, and an action committee formed to campaign for its continued operation is now fighting to save the 40 packaging plant jobs. Mr Len Griffin, general manager at the plant, said sales had been effected badly by the recession.

Further talks took place in Coventry yesterday to try to end the dispute over redundancy payments at the machine tool factory of Alfred Herbert, which has been sold to Tooling Investments, the Birmingham company.

Almost half of the 1,000 workers may be retained if the takeover proceeds but the new owners say settling the deal is in jeopardy because of a sit-in and a blockade of goods.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Working conditions on merchant ships

From Mr Philip J. Loree

Sir—Mr James Slater of the National Union of Seamen is reported in your column of September 5 as stating that most ships operating under "flags of convenience" are owned by American multinationals. While I would be delighted if this were so, the easily verifiable fact is that some American companies beneficially own less than one-fifth of the total tonnage, and slightly less than one-third of the total deadweight tonnage, of merchant vessels in the open registry fleets.

Mr Slater reportedly also stated that many American-owned ships had "working conditions which made one wonder whether there was the twentieth century". This comment should come as a surprise to those of us who are trade unionists who are familiar with working conditions on such vessels. Five years

ago, Mr Charles Blyth, then General Secretary of the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) and unquestionably the most outspoken critic of "flags of convenience", told The Honourable Society of Master Mariners: "Among extremes associated with flags of convenience, making generalisation hazardous, is that some owners are among the best employers in the world, eg the United States oil companies, whilst others are certainly the worst. Among the former are owners who, over the years have consistently employed more costly crews than they need."

The conventional defence is that other shipowners expect to be paid in full the agreed credit period. In fact, however, bank borrowers could do within so short a time a must therefore pay the rate for their debt. Why not the original rate?

No doubt, in the state of the law, the would uphold the law, but it is a challenge to those of us who are familiar with working conditions on such vessels.

While interest rates are stable at between 2 and 3 per cent, this was not important and borrowings pay higher rates on debts without much even if they disagreed with the principles of it. But a life and death matter like industry and for the economy as a whole.

The banks cannot do this, but at least a moratorium. Yours faithfully,

ALAN GRAINGER,
72 Leeds Old Road,
West Yorkshire, WF16
Sept 15

Cost of posting and packing

From Mr R. Lee Faulk

Sir—Recently, I wrote to you which specializes in heating parts and asking for a replacement for my furnace. I took over two weeks to receive it. What was really however, was the fact that it was going to be delivered to me (including VAT).

If this experience is to go by, it is no wonder British industry is bad and is unacceptable.

R. LEE FAULKNER
19 High Meadow,
Romiley,
Stockport,
Cheshire, SK6 4PT.
September 14

The quality of pricing of goods

From Mr Austen Albu

Sir—Does the fact that the terms of trade indicate the same time that if our competitive position worsened, as you correctly suggest?

Could it not be that British firms are no longer able to command higher prices in world markets?

AUSTEN ALBU,
17 The Crescent,
Keymer, Hassocks,
Sussex BN6 3RB.
Sept 16

Electric windmills not new

From Mr George Mathieson

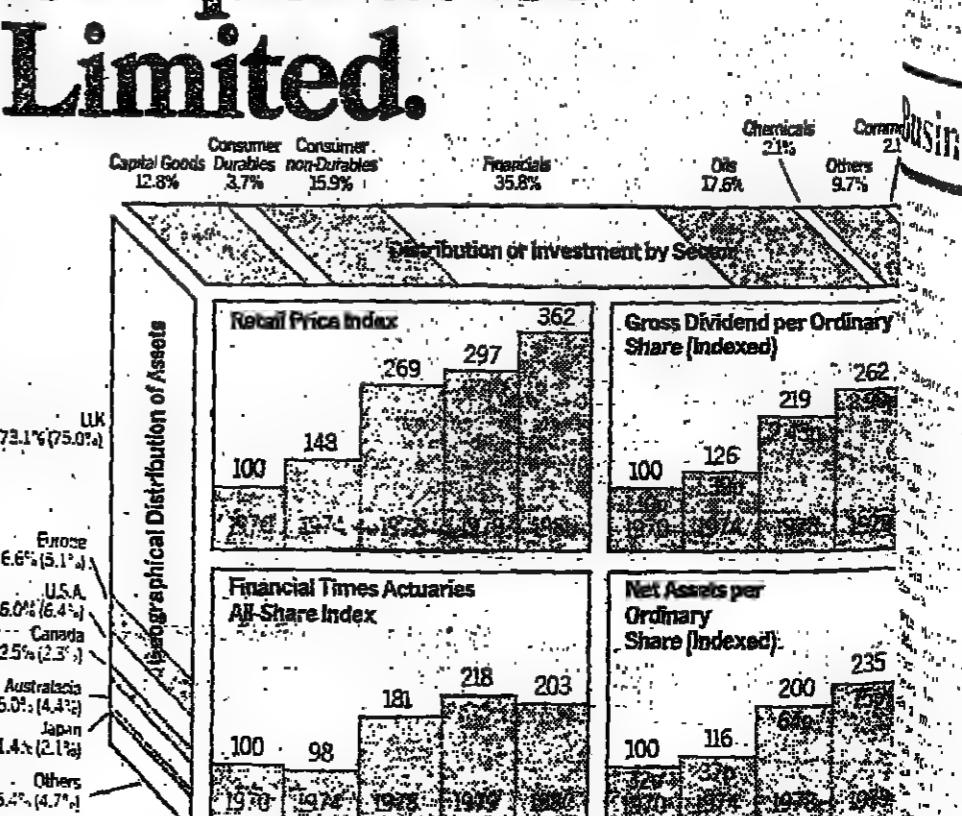
Sir—Mr G. W. W. Pindar's fascinating prognosis (September 12) needs to take account of the Danes. In 1944 a windmill was happily producing mains electricity in the town of Hedeset (Vejle). In 1968 its

tower was a not unattractive ruin.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE MATHIESON
1 Warren Hill,
Loughton,
Essex.
September 12.

The Trustees Corporation Limited.



Total assets at 31st May 1980: £72.7 million.

Currencies and interest rates continue to be volatile, making investment decisions more complex. The growing financial surplus of the major oil exporters will become harder to recycle as, over the years, more countries exhaust their ability to borrow. Post-war growth was fuelled by cheap oil; does ever

decreased oil mean that we shall be likely to maintain present levels of economic activity?

Nevertheless, there are always good prospects and the U.K. is well endowed with oil and coal; if our economy does not fare well, we shall only have ourselves to blame.

A. G. TOUCHE

A member of the Touche, Remnant Management Group. Total funds under group management exceed £1,000m.

Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from The Trustees Corporation, Winchester House, 77 London Wall, London EC2N 1RH.

Hepworth Ceramic

INTERIM REPORT

Consolidated Results

	Six months to 30th June 1980	Six months to 30th June 1979	Year ended 31st December 1979
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Turnover	137,107	130,271	272,238
Trading profit	14,560	16,153	56,937
Profit before taxation	15,007	15,283	56,174
Profit attributable to members	9,907	10,983	27,306
Earnings per share	6.7p	8.6p	20.9p

Note: The results for the six months to 30th June 1980 have not been audited and may be subject to adjustments which can only be made to the full year.

Interim Dividend

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Implications of the Opec meeting

ountries seem to be agreeing on little at present. But things can change. Any overall appraisal after the Opec meeting must, then, be rethought. The arithmetic is that the world is around 3 million barrels a day, probably stay there while Saudi keeps oil producing. 3 million a day, or 1 million more than without United States nudging, directly benefits the former O consortium that it is along as stays near \$28 a barrel. These are Socal, Chevron, Exxon, Texaco.

extent that these majors can make a more cheaply than others they have to also embarrass groups like IEP.

United States majors are unaffected by Vienna. They are from the gradual decontrol of rates oil and gas prices. So stocks Getty Oil, Marathon Oil, and Standard Oil companies should remain in favour.

recession and Saudi policy combine all North Sea stocks let alone BP. It from making so much money than otherwise, but this combination last for ever. United Kingdom was 15 per cent down in the first year and the United States call cent off.

United States alone is responsible for 1.5 million barrels a day. And the United Kingdom economy slack the United States could some through the worst. So the time to stocks again could be soon; after all my \$23.50 last January.

It provides balance

ay have been an element of Opec in the stock market's reaction Oil's interim results yesterday non-committal stance on dividend repeated 2.14p a share gross pay this stage) is a better explanation fall in the shares to 194p. After 3 of 44 per cent remains well below oil major.

is wisely playing its cards care its stage for although earnings from cant stake in the Thistle field are nicely up £10m in fact at the level to £15.2m, these are inside ring fence tax arrangement, not offsettable for tax purposes tax profits are up from £20.2m to

er, in other areas—refining, petrochemicals and automotive parts and distribution pressure from the general recession is beginning to tell. Autoparts, which take in Quinton Hazell, and the Tabbert caravan business in the first half from £6.1m to though against this shipping losses of so much headache in the past to be unwound as Burnham's favourable charters and so far are down from £4.3m to £0.4m. Striking picture, then, for the next few years is of Thistle remaining a contributor to profit although (as in the United Kingdom tax laws) this will have a less important earnings.

that Burnham's aspirations as in the seventh round licensing issues are obviously crucial, and by a successful application would gate the tax burden since development would be offsettable within the

It's well

Zinc has got the mining and the its rights issue of convertible loan stock well-judged. If it had, profits might not have looked as a straight ordinary share offer have caused dilution problems. As company has raised the interim by 22 per cent to 7.85p gross.

Assuming an overall increase of 20 per cent on last year's total of 21.43 gross, the yield at last night's price of 5.5 is 5.5 per cent. The timing was important because the indications are that RTZ's second half will not be as good. The copper price is now same £200 below the first six months' average and is unlikely to improve.

CRA, of course, remains strong, and earnings from Rio Algom, Rossing, RTZ Borax and RTZ Oil and Gas are all higher. But the same overall rate of increase is improbable because RTZ is more exposed to industrial demand than its gold mining fellow finance houses.

Good though the increase in attributable profits was rising by 45.6 per cent to £89.7m—the stock market seems in pushing up the shares by 22p yesterday, to be reacting to the terms of the rights issue rather than the profits outlook. A 9.5 per cent convertible loan stock is an attractive alternative to the current yield on the shares, especially if investors think that an industrial recovery will bring a mining boom.

Sir Mark Turner, chairman of RTZ.

For its part, RTZ is clearly concerned about the undue amount of ACT irrecoverable because so much of its earnings are from abroad. Of the £123m total, £27m is to be spent on taking up rights in CRA, and another £17m will go on raising the stake in Rio Tinto-Minerals. A significant proportion of the rest will go on energy-related business, mainly in Britain. This could include mining machinery, oil and gas, and mainstream metals. With Cerro Colorado looming, RTZ is powerfully placed, whatever the medium-term prospects.

Dalgety

Integrating Spillers

In a year in which sales doubled to £1.876m including, of course, a £53.5m contribution from Spillers-Dalgety, has lifted pretax profits by less than £2m to £33.5m.

But having steadily downgraded its forecasts since the integration since the market was braced for worse so Dalgety shares recaptured some of their pre-Spillers popularity adding 12p to 294p.

A whole batch of problems involved in integrating and rationalizing the opportunistic Spillers purchase have been a major factor and indeed Spillers net pretax profit contribution of only £6.7m for eight months points to fairly significant deterioration in that group's earnings towards the year-end. But just as significant has been the near wiping out of United States profits—down from £4m to £200,000—and a near doubling of interest charges to £26m. In the United States the group's frozen vegetable division was badly caught by heavy destocking and Dalgety Foods ran up losses of £5m before equilibrium was restored.

Fortunately for Dalgety, however, the Australian and New Zealand markets have still been riding high while in the United Kingdom Dalgety's original businesses have managed to lift trading profits £2m to £20.1m helped by a good year in animal feeds.

At the end of the day Dalgety can only barely cover its dividend by historic cost earnings, while net debt although almost £30m down on December level still exceeds £200m and represents a shade under four-fifths of shareholders funds. A £20m extraordinary item will find its way into the accounts reflecting Dalgety's estimation of the integration and rationalization costs of Spillers much of it covering mill closures and a redundancy toll which has already reached 1,500.

THE TIMES THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 18 1980

Economic notebook

No use blaming the rest of the world

Is the recession in Britain caused by a recession in the rest of the world or is it home grown? Government ministers clearly believe that the first explanation is correct. When unemployment topped the two million mark Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Employment, couched his concern with a statement that the rise showed the impact which the world recession was having on us. The facts do not bear him out.

As the Bank of England points out in its latest Quarterly Bulletin, the slowdown in the rest of the world has been a very localized affair until recently which left British export markets untouched for a long time. The Bank notes that growth in British export markets has been running at a fairly brisk rate until very recently, with 8 per cent growth up to the first quarter of the year.

That, rather than any particular miracle of greater efficiency, explains the remarkable export boom which our industry recorded. As far as we are concerned, we have not yet been exposed to the world recession.

But we soon shall be. As North America, which accounted for just over 11 per cent of our exports last year, starts to recover so Europe, which accounted for 58 per cent of our sales, is slowing down. Instead of being concentrated in the successful parts of the world we shall be selling into a European economy which is experiencing a recession of its own.

The result will be to make the competitiveness of British goods much more important. Economists have long argued about the importance of relative demand policies and competitiveness in deciding how international trade moves. The experience of the past twelve months suggests that in the short term it is demand management policies which have most effect.

The United Kingdom has pursued more restrictive policies than most of its European neighbours and has thus moved more quickly and deeply into recession. This has led to a dramatic drop in imports during the first half of the year

A recession which has the label "Made in Britain" firmly stamped upon it

while our exports have gone on virtually unscathed. But over a longer period, the forces of competitiveness tend to reassess themselves.

This means that exports are likely to fall away very sharply in the near future. This fits in with the results of Confederation of British Industry surveys which show that there has been a dramatic worsening of export order books over the past three months.

So in terms of its effect on the domestic economy, our trade with the rest of the world has so far been a plus factor (imports are down sharply) but is turning into a minus one. That points to extra pressure on output, employment and profits in the year ahead. But it is equally true that competitiveness is vitally important and so does this level of sterling pose a real problem?

The answer to the first question is yes. The volume of trade in manufactures in the first half of this year in our markets was up by about 7 per cent on the previous year. The volume of our exports was vir-

David Blake

Can it really be just six years since Jeffrey Archer summed up the collapse of his political career with the words: "I have now only £18 left in the world"?

Indeed it can. In spite of the fact that Archer is now exceedingly rich on the proceeds of several novels of "faction", one of which proved so offensive to the widow of the late President Kennedy that she felt forced to resign from a senior post with the American book company which had decided to publish it.

Archer, readers may recall, was the former Oxford blue who became Conservative MP for Louth and sparkling political gadfly of the entertainment world only to have to resign his seat in 1974 as the result of an unwise financial investment.

Since then, the books he has produced have astounded the literary world with their ability to sell millions in the face of a talent for words which can at best be described as somewhat fundamental.

Reports from London, SW3 indicate, however, that Archer's early penchant for setting up business ventures has not gone unanswered for some. One of his first brainchildren, an unlikely idea called "Babysitters Unlimited", now flourishes under the wing of one Wendy Stewart-Robertson who has some 150 babysitters and a gaggle of other interests on her books.

The idea of sending freelance babysitters to Bayswater is probably far better. Archer now, but given his experience of living off £18 a week, he will probably be pleased to hear of his former company's latest idea.

David Hewson



Credit cards have proliferated in recent years. The Monopolies Commission report makes the first detailed examination of this multi-million pound business.

Why credit card groups must loosen their grip

Roman Eisenstein

The Monopolies Commission's report on credit cards, published yesterday, raises two main issues. First it attacks the "no discrimination" clause which obliges traders to treat card customers on equal footing with cash payment; secondly, it examines the lack of competition between the credit card companies.

The report says that the credit card companies, especially Barclaycard and Access, should no longer be able to insist on a minimum fee on the so-called non-discrimination" clause against credit card holders.

Traders, mainly garages, were demanding that they should be allowed to charge different prices to card holders and cash customers.

The Monopolies Commission says that the non-discrimination clause has restricted the trader's freedom and prevented him from competing with other traders by offering different prices. This according to the commission, also has the effect of "depriving customers of an important choice in purchasing goods or services, and in some cases possibly leading to increased prices generally to all a trader's customers whether or not they are card holders".

This is clear enough but what is not is how the system might operate in practice without the non-discrimination clause. The report says that where prices are different the trader should give adequate warning of this: fact in his customers. But it does not specify how this should be done. So it is quite conceivable that some firms could display the warning in such a way that customers will not be aware of the differential and will become accustomed with it only when it is too late to take action.

Our export prices have risen very rapidly and a more conventional approach is the only possible explanation. This says that domestic prices also have an effect. If our inflation is higher than other countries, any depreciation can prevent us pricing ourselves out of overseas markets.

Does all this mean that the Government ought to share the CBI view that the exchange rate has to come down? Not necessarily. There may be other things more important than manufacturing output, or holding on to world markets or the balance of trade.

The extra recessionary twist which comes when our exports start to fall may be a necessary part of the strategy. But it is equally true that competitiveness is vitally important and so does this level of sterling pose a real problem?

The answer to the first question is yes. The volume of trade in manufactures in the first half of this year in our markets was up by about 7 per cent on the previous year. The volume of our exports was vir-

David Blake

Austrian Länderbank: A new Epoch for the Representation in London

The Chairman of the Managing Board and Chief Executive Officer of Länderbank, Vienna, Dr Erndl, has recently disclosed that the bank's Representative in London will change hands at the end of this month. Mr James S. Roke, who deserves credit for his work in heading the London Liaison Office for over three years, could not, as a former member of H.M. Diplomatic Service, refuse the invitation to lecture at the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna.

As its new Representative the bank has appointed

Mr Gerald Cronenberg, MBE,

who has hitherto, as one of the bank's Area Administrators in its International Division, been responsible for the U.K. and Ireland. Whilst spending a year with Länderbank's AEECOR counterpart in Great Britain, Barclays Bank International Limited, Mr Cronenberg had the opportunity of meeting many bankers from the City on a personal level, and thereby made valuable contacts for his bank.

The increasing importance of Britain for Länderbank as a country with which the bank conducts its business is demonstrated by the following figures: the volume of business recorded for 1979 was 11% more than in the preceding year. As the emphasis on foreign trade between the two countries is in Austria, it is intended that the work of the Representative be carried out from Vienna. The idea behind this decision is to entrust one person with

the whole operations' procedure, i.e., supervision, implementation and follow-up, so that business can be conducted as efficiently as possible. This concept has to be applied flexibly so that not only the high level of service provided to customers and correspondent banks can be maintained, but also that existing links with the international financial centre can be further developed and strengthened. It will thus be possible for Länderbank to provide its customers with an individually tailored range of services which can be adjusted to suit the changing requirements of day-to-day business.

The Management of Länderbank is quite aware that new standards are being set by this unusual concept and unconventional method of customer service. The requirements of the eighties call for task-oriented measures. This not only involves reacting to questions or problems that may arise, but, with the marketing concept of Länderbank in mind, also implementing objectives envisaged by a dynamic market. All the activities which fall under this area must reasonably be in line with the peculiarities of the Anglo-Austrian exchange of goods.

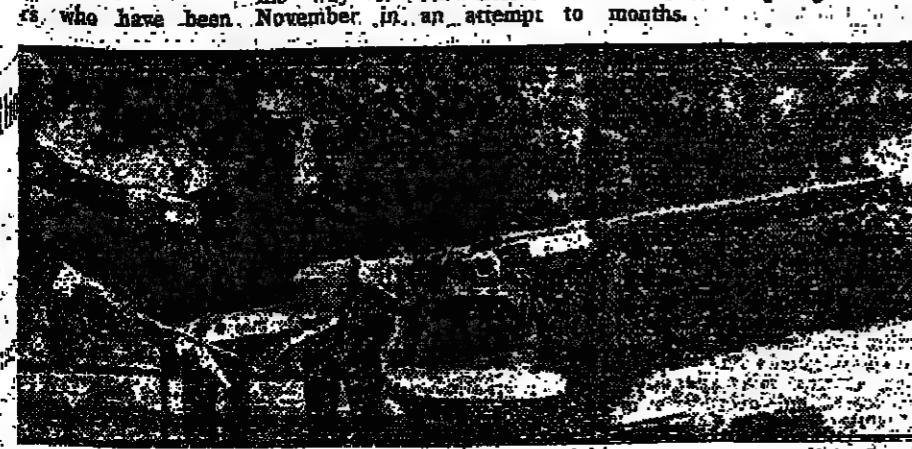
The range of tasks will apart from representational functions comprise above all business-oriented activities leading to business contacts with constituents in government in the course of trade with the U.K. and Ireland, as well as with regulators in particular belonging to the Financial Services Authority.



AUSTRIAN LÄNDERBANK
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in Hong Kong earlier this year.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Mining shares soar in heavy trade

Mining shares streaked ahead and selective buying made numerous special features, but the market failed to establish any overall trend yesterday.

Relief that RTZ, up 20p to 488p on the day, was raising money with a convertible issue and not ordinary shares gave the market an early boost.

Investors marked up leading shares on the news, but investors failed to take the baton. Trade dried up amid continued uncertainty over the threatened dock strike and when the news cut in interest rates would finally take place.

The main feature among the leaders was the 28p rise in GKN from 456p ahead of today's results, and this helped push the FT index back over 500, where it closed 3.1 points up at 501.4. Other leading shares like Bechtel at 157p, Glaxo at 254p, Unilever at 500p and Wilkinson at 238p showed rises of a penny or two but on scarcely any turnover.

Gills saw some reasonable two-way trade and closed higher across the board but with the market trading at this level dealers reckoned that today's new tap stock would get a decidedly lukewarm reception.

Spurred on by the good news from RTZ and Cons Gold and a final gold price mines stormed ahead in heavy trade. South African gold mines opened higher in response to New York closing levels, and won higher on buying from the Cape and London. Although gold closed off the best at 567.50, most mining issues closed near the top with the gold mines index at a record high of 487.9.

Anglo American Gold ended 221 better at 501.5, Hartbeest 12 higher at 501.5, W. D. Rondelet 10p 52; up 54p and Blyvoor 12p up at 970. Pres Steen rose 112 to 254, and Kirov 45p to 80p.

A big rise in profits and dividends left Cons Gold 15p higher

at 606p while other mining finance issues like Charter at 258p and Tanks at 353p were both 10p to the good.

Australian natural resource stocks were also firm, recording sizable gains in busy trade. Bourgenville Rose 3p to 125p, BHP 20p to 795p, N. Kalgoorlie 8p to 105p and Poseidon 16p to 321p.

Magellan added 10p to 329p and Hampton Trust 4p to 82p while ACR firmed 1p to 20p.

Platinum shares were in demand with big gains from Impala up 38p to 523p and Johannesburg Platinum up 36p to 350p.

Profit news from Burnham undermined a steady tone in oil shares. Burnham closed 16p lower at 194p as the punters cleared out and elsewhere BP closed 4p lower to 352p on reports of a dry well and Shell eased 2p to 41p.

Tricentrol ended 14p lower at

342p, also after trading news, and Lasmo slipped 15p to 68p and Ultramar 4p to 363p.

Second-line shares were a firm market with Oil Rig Exploration, the latest newcomer, rising a further 5p to 110p. The Humble Grove tri-

Canadian exploration issue Double Eagle jumped 50p to 610p.

Dalgety was a firm spot in foods rising 6p to 294p after results and Rowntree Mackintosh rose 8p to 178p ahead of forthcoming results.

Other companies reporting included Berwick Timpo, down 3p to 55p and Bewrose down 4p to 31p but Expanded Metal rose 2p to 57p after results.

Elsewhere in engineering, Simon Engineering was in demand again after recent results and the shares rose 8p to 265p. Lucas was 4p better at 212p and Wadkin recovered 3p to 78p in the wake of this week's figures.

Brokers were to the fore in insurance following the recent good figures from Willis Faber, up 5p to 260p. Alexander Howden rose 4p to 106p and Robinson 2p to 140p in brisk two-way business.

Eagle Star, also reporting firm 2p to 266p after figures and Legal and General 8p to 251p. The rest of the sector was firm in sympathy with Commercial Union 1p up at 178p, Hamble Life 3p up at 302p and Sun Alliance 3p up at 759p.

Most of the interest in properties centred on the second liners like Rush & Tampkins where continued takeover speculation pushed the shares up 8p to 244p. Westminster & County firmed 8p to 51p after results but Trafalgar Park Estates was unchanged at 180p after trading news and Law Land eased 2p to 851p. Among newly traded shares, MEPC closed unchanged at 248p but British Land rose 1p to 95p and Land Securities 2p to 390p.

Southern Rhodesian bonds were weak on worries about the situation in Zimbabwe and the 4% per cent 87-92 closed 2p off at 559. But Lonrho and Turner & Newall, both with big commitments in Zimbabwe firmed 1p to 106p and 107p respectively.

Investment demand pushed S. Pearson up 12p to 235p, Anderson Strathclyde up 4p to 1031p and McCrorquade up 7p to 103p.

Equity turnover for September 16 was £94.90m (number of bargains 17,474). Yesterday's most active stocks, according to Exchange Telegraph, were RTZ, Burnham, KCA International, ICL, BHP, Dowty, GKN, BP, Shell, Charter Consolidated, Boots, Beecham, Dalgety, GEC and Fidelity Radio.

Traded options were moderately active with 1,214 contracts of which 340 were in Cons Gold. Interest centred in the October 550s and 600s. RTZ was also busy with 219 mostly in the November 500s. Transactional options were quiet. Calls were made in speculative mineral resources issues such as Double Eagle, Target Petroleum.

Losses fail to slow Eagle Star

By Richard Allen, Insurance Correspondent

Underwriting losses are still climbing at Eagle Star but burgeoning investment income more than compensates. In the first six months of the year the group has increased pretax profits by 26 per cent from £23.4m to £29.5m despite a widening of the underwriting deficit from £13.5m to £14.8m.

Investment "income" during the period jumped by £7.2m to £34.5m even after deducting £1m interest paid on loan notes issued on the acquisition of Bernard Sunley Investment Trust.

Although the group says the interim figures are not a reliable guide to the full-year it has seen fit to increase the interim dividend by a fifth to 7.14p gross.

On the underwriting front, where UK losses rose from £11m to £16m, the group says that a substantial improvement in claims frequency has been largely offset by sharp increases in claims costs. More significantly, the commercial fire account only broke even after several profitable years while liability business losses increased sharply particularly in the "workers' compensation field".

The marine and aviation account is still deteriorating and the group says there is no sign that the necessary improvements in premiums and terms can be introduced in present world market conditions.

Shareholders' life profits for the six months were £5.3m against a deficit of £4.7m.

On the life front the group says that, despite some signs of slowdown in new business some sections such as mortgage and individual pension savings are still buoyant. New sums assured are up from £1.257m to £1.626m.

Briefly

Harrison Cowley (Holdings): A 52 per cent rise in profits before tax and extraordinary items, to £613,000 for the first half of 1980, is reported by this Bristol-based advertising agency, the shares of which have placed under offer at £51.21 in July. Group turnover was 25 per cent up to £11.53m. Chairman, Mr David Harrison, expects the profit forecast for "the rest" to £900,000 for the year will be achieved.

Dale Electric International: Chairman of this power systems group, where profits dropped by 24% to £1.3m last year, says that group is over worked and back on track to recovery. Second-half sales are almost double first half and indicate at generating set subsidiary is 50 per cent up since the end of year.

Pulcom: Turnover for first half of 1980, £17.73m (£17.41m), pre-tax profits dropped to £428,000 (against £1.02m). Actions taken are expected to result in an improvement in performance.

United States Distillery Corporation: Gross revenue for half-year to July 31, £3.46m (£2.65m). Interim payment unchanged at 2.58p gross.

Frost Waterworks' offer for sale by tender of £1.5m, 8% per cent, redeemable preference stock, 1983, attracted applications for £3.74m.

Arthur Wood & Son (Longport): Turnover for half-year to June 30, £1.18m (£1.08m). Pre-tax profit, £23,700 (£20,500).

Burns-Anderson: Turnover for year to June 30, reached £29.18m, against £26.07m. Pre-tax profits were up from £257,000 to £1.02m. Total dividend, 2.85p (2.4p) gross, and a special share of 100 for 35p to 41p. Short-term deposits increased to £1.8m (£1 last year).

Expanded Metal: Turnover for first half of 1980, £18.48m (£15.86m). Pre-tax profits £1.1m (£1.17m). Interim payment held at 2.35p gross and board expects to pay a final dividend of 2.35p gross. Board expects that it is unlikely that second-half's profits will exceed first's.

Ferder, Pollock & Sons: Board of Ferder, Pollock and eight subsidiaries have asked their bankers, Investment Bank of Ireland, to appoint a receiver. Bank has accepted this request.

Law Land: Turnover for half-year to June 30, £5.58m (£5.31m). Pre-tax profit, £55,000 (£57,000). Interim payment raised from 0.71p to 0.75p gross. Board expects to recommend a final at "at least" the same as for 1979 (which was 1.07p gross).

Tricentrol interim profits soar, but dividend held

By Catherine Guar

Increasing production from the Thistle Field helped Tricentrol to increase interim pretax profits by nearly three times to £21.4m at June 30, but the interim dividend remained unchanged at 4p gross. Recession and mild winter reduced demand for crude oil, particularly in the second quarter, and prices were weak.

Tricentrol expects to see a more stable oil market in 1981. Meanwhile, production from Thistle has to catch up with targets. Below expectations in the first half, it is now recovering and should rise steadily. New well drilling was restricted earlier this year spent "working over" existing wells and by malfunctions in equipment.

Tricentrol's 1.45m barrel share of oil lifted from Thistle in the first half brought in £2.5m net of £203,000 of Government royalty. Operating profits from oil and gas exploration were £18m, up from £4.33m. But the industrial division was hit by the troubles of the automotive industry and building merchanting and its operating profit fell from £2.25m to £271,000.

Interest costs rose by £2.2m to £8.35m, but £5.6m of that was capitalised under the Thistle loan, which is set to expire in July 1982. This will fall to £2.42m by the year-end and the group is debating whether to clear it completely by end-1981. At the moment it excluded from in-house gearing calculations. Other net borrowings totalled £3.77m.

Mr James Longcroft, chairman of Tricentrol, said:

"Our financial position is

more stable than in 1980. Mean-

while, production from

Thistle has to catch up with

targets. Below expectations in

the first half, it is now recov-

ering and should rise steadily.

New well drilling was restricted

earlier this year spent "work-

ing over" existing wells and by

malfunctions in equipment.

Drilling starts on the +

the north of the Thistle

next month, and in a

block near the Claymore

shortly.

Given the weak oil

49 per cent of Tricentrol

but is sold on the spot

-profits this year are u-

to exceed £45m.

The shares slipped 2p

yesterday, where the pros-

tably taxed p/e is around

An overall dividend incre-

a tenth would yield 3%

cent gross.

Bemrose passes interim

By Our Financial Staff

A short recovery period seen at the beginning of the year at Bemrose Corporation, the printing and packaging group, was swiftly brought to a halt by industrial action, customer destocking, foreign competition and falling demand.

April and May saw significant trading losses, which contributed to the downturn in pretax profits in half year to June 28 to £114,000, against £190,000. Turnover moved up from £27.8m to £28.2m.

An interim dividend has been passed and the "most careful consideration" will be given to the final dividend, said Mr David Wigglesworth, the chief executive, yesterday.

The first few months profits picking up on national printing union's trial action stopped the hours of production of the Derby-based operations. Foreign competition and price coupling with the fall in demand in the United Kingdom reversed this trend, he said.

Output for the period

lower than for last year

half and the 6 per cent in turnover was well

inflation figures, he

Interest charges of £1

against £69,000 knocked

the trading profit from

to £781,000.

The first few months

profits picking up on

national printing union's

trial action stopped the

hours of production

of the Derby-based

operations. Foreign

competition and price

coupling with the fall in d-

emand in the United Kingdom

reversed this trend, he s-

aid.

The group's

turnover for the period

was £27.8m, up 1.4%

from £27.2m.

Turnover for the period

was £28.2m, up 1.4%

from £27.8m.

Interest charges were

£1.1m, up 1.4%

from £1.0m.

Interest charges were

£1.1m, up 1.4%

from £1.0m.

Interest charges were

£1.1m, up 1.4%

PERSONAL CHOICE



who plays the traffic warden in the comedy 'Patch' (ITV, 7.30).

A night on the metaphysical, the supernatural, the religious-historical—two hours and 10 minutes both a factual framework (*Open Door*, at 8.00) and (*A Matter of Life and Death*, 8.30). Open

is which the BBC makes screen time available to provide a platform for the radical views of *The Times*. It is not so much within the mainstream that *Gospel values* operating as in *secular* and the belief in a mock and mild Jesus with an exaltation. I hear that a feminist faction within *Open* is particularly vocal in tonight's programme.

If I have interpreted them,

the worshipping of Christ the King has the effect

of domination society.

Even the theory advanced in that sentence,

nothing in the Powell-Pressburger surrealistic

Life and Death to strain your credulity. It

is of importance to remind you that this

heavenly hearing of an RAF officer's appeal

to death. It is almost a masterpiece, with its

shift from colour to monochrome, the vast

terrestrial and celestial, nothing. Why it fails

utterly is that the white Anglo-American

appeal starts being ironic. Ironically, it is

illness which ultimately causes it to fail.

'Patch' (ITV, 7.30) takes producer

Tall and Sir Kenneth Dove, president of the

which was asked in impatience with Corinth

itself. In dramatised sequence, we see

Socrates, Stephen Murray of *Timothy* and

and Herodotus.

Try not to miss the repeat:

Acrobats, Michael Wright's beautiful film

on wonder men and women. It can be seen in

next Scottish TV.

Congratulatory sense of humour is not

if tea, but the musical knowledge that underpins

material in eclectic programmes such as

we're *It* (Radio 3, 5.00) is something to seize,

and extraordinary is it, in fact, that I am certain that if I heard in which opera Benjamin Luxon sang the

disharmonious, he would, without a moment's

hesitation, sing *It*.

It is recording of the comic opera, conducted by

be heard today, with Mr Luxon as the

greatest friar.

BOLE'S MEAN: STEREO; "BLACK AND WHITE";

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 Open University : Learning problems. 7.05 *Chardis* and the female image. Closedown at 7.30. 12.45 News and weather.

1.45 Pebble Mill at One : Includes *Tony Wilson* regular feature on the cinema. He talks about Greta Garbo, subject of Alexander Walker's new book. That's all a farce, written at the National Film Theatre. 1.45 *Mister Men*: Mr Large and Mr Bump (r). Close-down at 1.50.

2.15 *Music Time for Teachers*: Second screening of yesterday's film about teaching music to junior pupils. Closedown at 2.45.

2.45 *Fairy Tales*: A lesson's adaptation of the Hans Andersen story, *The Ugly Duckling*. Told by Elizabeth Milbank and Don Spencer.

3.45 *Lamel and Hardy*: cartoon. 4.00 *Peter Pan*: The seventh disc of the series, hunt for the lost boys. The *Radio Times* comes in very useful. 4.40 *The Red Hand Gang*: Part 2 of three-part serial about a valuable jewel. 5.00 *John Carter's New World*: junior newsreaders recommended for the whole of the family. 5.15 *Sue Peter*: How they make the sit, that the beans go, what the beans takes. Sarah Green to Malaysia.

5.40 News : with Richard Baker. 5.55 *Nationwide*: Tonight's *Crash Roots* is presented by Smart Hall and it's a Knockout man.

5.55 *Playtime*: *The Up-and-Downs* of the *Hans Andersen* story, *The Ugly Duckling*. Told by Elizabeth Milbank and Don Spencer.

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8.15 *Laurel and Hardy*: cartoon. 8.45 *Peter Pan*: The seventh disc of the series, hunt for the lost boys. The *Radio Times* comes in very useful. 9.00 *News* : with Jan Leesone.

9.15 *Mackenzie*: Episode 3 of this romantic drama series about an ambitious builder (Jack Galloway) and the women in his life. Tonight's *Playtime* (Sue Peter) starts asking some awkward questions.

9.30 *The Greeks*: *The Classical Age*. Part two of this journey into space and time is about Sicily in the days of the ancient Greeks and was one of the first civilisations on the island to this day. (See Personal Choice).

10.00 *Out of the Past*: Russell Harty interview programme. *Playtime* (Sue Peter) asks the questions. 10.30 *Weather*.

11.00 *Open University*: *Instructional Reading*. Told by Dorothy Hayes.

11.45 *News* : headlines.

Regions

11.55 *Variations*: *Local* news, 6.30-7.00. *Headlines*, 7.15-8.00. *Local* news, 8.00-8.30. *Reporters*, 8.30-9.00. *Local* news, 9.00-9.30. *Local* news, 9.30-10.00. *Local* news, 10.00-10.30. *Local* news, 10.30-11.00. *Local* news, 11.00-11.30. *Local* news, 11.30-12.00. *Local* news, 12.00-12.30. *Local* news, 12.30-13.00. *Local* news, 13.00-13.30. *Local* news, 13.30-14.00. *Local* news, 14.00-14.30. *Local* news, 14.30-15.00. *Local* news, 15.00-15.30. *Local* news, 15.30-16.00. *Local* news, 16.00-16.30. *Local* news, 16.30-17.00. *Local* news, 17.00-17.30. *Local* news, 17.30-18.00. *Local* news, 18.00-18.30. *Local* news, 18.30-19.00. *Local* news, 19.00-19.30. *Local* news, 19.30-20.00. *Local* news, 20.00-20.30. *Local* news, 20.30-21.00. *Local* news, 21.00-21.30. *Local* news, 21.30-22.00. *Local* news, 22.00-22.30. *Local* news, 22.30-23.00. *Local* news, 23.00-23.30. *Local* news, 23.30-24.00. *Local* news, 24.00-24.30. *Local* news, 24.30-25.00. *Local* news, 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All advertisements are subject to
the conditions of acceptance of
Times Newspapers Limited,
copies of which are available
on request.

**THE DEADLINE FOR
ALL COPY IS ONE
CLEAR PUBLISHING
DAY**

i.e. Monday is the
deadline for Wednesday,
Friday for Monday;
Stop and Alterations
copy is 5.00 p.m. prior to
the day of publication.
For Monday's issue, the
deadline is 12 noon Saturday.
On all cancellations a
Stop Number will be
issued to the advertiser.
On any subsequent queries
regarding the cancellation,
this Stop Number must be
quoted.

CLASSIFIED RATES
PERSONAL COLUMNS
£3.00 per line £2.25 per
cm semi-display £18.50
per full display

APPOINTMENTS
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